

# PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 2004-012204

(43)Date of publication of application : 15.01.2004

(51)Int.CI.

G01F 1/66

(21)Application number : 2002-163648

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(22)Date of filing : 04.06.2002

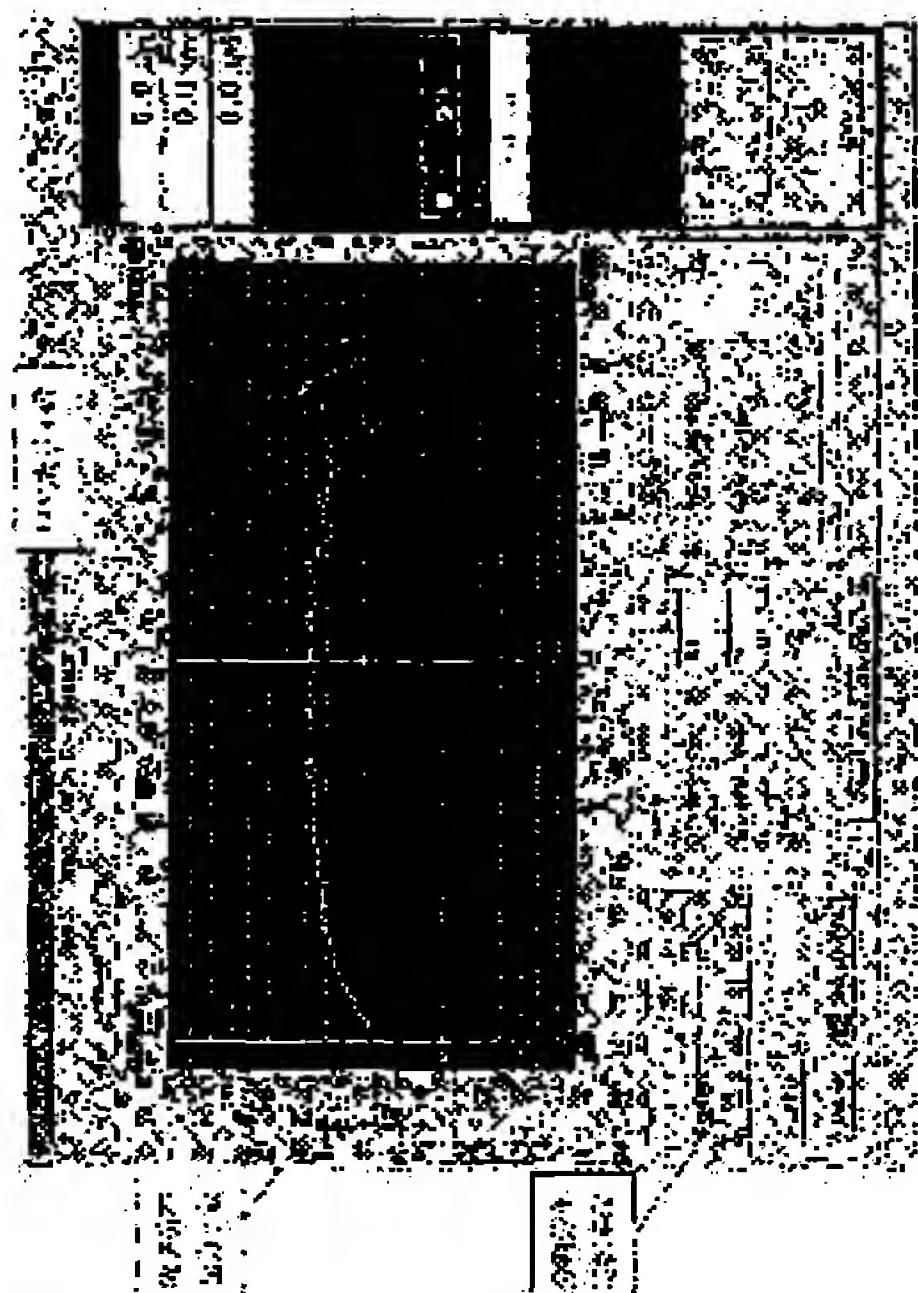
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## (54) DOPPLER TYPE ULTRASONIC FLOWMETER, AND METHOD AND PROGRAM FOR FLOW MEASUREMENT USING DOPPLER TYPE ULTRASONIC FLOWMETER

### (57)Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide technique as to a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter allowing more precise flow measurement even when a measured value of a flow velocity distribution is dispersed.

**SOLUTION:** This flowmeter is provided with an output operation monitor provided with a flow velocity distribution outputting means for outputting, on a screen, the flow distribution of a measured fluid in a measuring area, a central display means for displaying the center of a measured point in the measured fluid with respect to the flow velocity distribution displayed on the screen by the flow velocity distribution outputting means, and a divided distribution selecting means for making a user select one of flow velocity distributions divided into two using the central display as a boundary, to be output. A flow rate computing means executes computation using the one divided distribution selected using the divided distribution selecting means, and executes multiplication by two to measure a flow rate of the measured fluid in the measuring area.



### LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination] 26.07.2002

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number] 3602112

[Date of registration] 01.10.2004

[Number of appeal against examiner's decision  
of rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's  
decision of rejection]

[Date of extinction of right]

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**CLAIMS**

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**[Claim(s)]****[Claim 1]**

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency is carried out into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer,

A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

It is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid,

A velocity-distribution output means to carry out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

A central display means to display the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution in which the velocity-distribution output means carried out the screen output,

It is halved bordering on the central display, and has a division distribution selection means in the velocity distribution outputted by which while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ], Said flow rate operation means is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured by having chosen while using said division distribution selection means, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

**[Claim 2]**

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency is carried out into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer,

A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

It is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid,

A division distribution creation means to halve in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and to create two division distribution to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

It has the automatic selection means which compares two created division distribution and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion,

Said flow rate operation means is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured, when while

chose, it calculates and said automatic selection means carries out two times using division distribution.

[Claim 3]

A measured fluid equips an ultrasonic transmitting means with the frequency-selective setting device which chooses automatically the fundamental-frequency slack optimum frequency which produces a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the tube wall of flowing fluid piping, The ultrasonic transducer of an ultrasonic transmitting means is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter according to claim 1 or 2 to which it was presupposed that said optimum frequency is oscillated.

[Claim 4]

It has the incident angle adjustment setting-out means which carries out adjustment setting out of whenever [ incident angle / of the ultrasonic pulse by which incidence is carried out into a measured fluid from an ultrasonic transducer ].

The incident angle adjustment setting-out means is a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter given in either of claim 1 to claims 3 which enabled adjustment setting out of an ultrasonic transducer to fluid piping so that it might become whenever [ incident angle / which an ultrasonic pulse makes produce a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the tube wall of fluid piping ].

[Claim 5]

An ultrasonic transducer is equipped with the transducer migration device to which the second transducer which the shaft orientations of fluid piping are made to estrange the first transducer and its first transducer, and is installed, and the first transducer and the second transducer are moved relatively,

Said transducer migration device is a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter given in either claim 3 carried out to making it move so that the ultrasonic pulse which the first transducer and the second transducer oscillate may intersect perpendicularly in the measurement field in fluid piping, or claim 4.

[Claim 6]

With the first reflected wave receiver and the second reflected wave receiver which receive the ultrasonic echo which is a reflected wave, respectively from the measurement field in fluid piping of the ultrasonic pulse oscillated from the first transducer and the second transducer

A velocity-vector calculation means to compute the velocity vector of the direction of an ultrasonic measurement line, respectively from the reinforcement of the ultrasonic echo received with the first reflected wave receiver and the second reflected wave receiver,

It has a rate-of-flow vector calculation means to compute the rate-of-flow vector of the fluid of each velocity vector computed with the velocity-vector calculation means measured [ vector quiet ],

A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measures a velocity distribution using said rate-of-flow vector,

A flow rate operation means is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter according to claim 5 to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow is calculated using the velocity distribution concerned.

[Claim 7]

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency is carried out into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the fluid measured [ ], and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, It is the flow rate measurement approach using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid,

The velocity-distribution output procedure of carrying out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

The central display procedure which displays the center of the point of measurement in a

measured fluid to the velocity distribution by which the screen output was carried out in the velocity-distribution output procedure,

It is halved bordering on the display of the center by the central display procedure, and has the division distribution selection procedure in the velocity distribution outputted in which while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ],

Said flow rate operation means is the flow rate measurement approach to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured, when while chose, it calculates and a user does two times using division distribution using said division distribution selection procedure.

[Claim 8]

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency is carried out into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer,

A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

It is the flow rate measurement approach using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid,

The division distribution creation procedure which halves in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and creates two division distribution to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

It has the automatic selection procedure which compares two created division distribution and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion,

Said flow rate operation means is the flow rate measurement approach to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured by having chosen while in said automatic selection procedure, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

[Claim 9]

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency is carried out into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer,

A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

It is a flow rate measurement program using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid,

The program is the velocity-distribution output procedure of carrying out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

The central display procedure which displays the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution by which the screen output was carried out in the velocity-distribution output procedure,

While being halved bordering on the display of the center by the central display procedure and making a computer perform the division distribution selection procedure in the velocity distribution outputted in which while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ],

The program for flow rate measurement carried out to making the measured fluid flow in said measurement field measure when while chose, it calculates and a user does two times to the flow rate operation means of said Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter using division distribution using said division distribution selection procedure.

[Claim 10]

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary

frequency is carried out into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer,

A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

It is a flow rate measurement program using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid,

The program is a division distribution creation procedure which halves in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and creates two division distribution to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field,

While making a computer perform the automatic selection procedure which compares two created division distribution and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion,

The program for flow rate measurement to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured by having chosen while in said automatic selection procedure, and calculating and carrying out two times to the flow rate operation means of said Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter using division distribution.

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[Translation done.]

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**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

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**[Detailed Description of the Invention]****[0001]**

**[Field of the Invention]** This invention relates to the technique relevant to the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter and it which can measure the measured fluid flow by the time-dependent from the velocity distribution of a measurement field in an instant.

**[0002]****[Description of the Prior Art]**

even if it is the flow of an unstationary state in JP,2000-97742,A -- a time-dependent -- accuracy -- precision -- the measurable Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter is indicated by non-contact [ high ].

The Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter indicated here makes the following configurations. That is, the ultrasonic echo reflected from a measurement field among an ultrasonic transmitting means carry out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into a measured fluid along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, and the ultrasonic pulse by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid receives, and it has a fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, and a flow rate operation means perform an integration operator based on the velocity distribution of the above-mentioned measured fluid. And a flow rate operation means measures a flow rate based on the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field.

**[0003]**

This Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter measures the velocity distribution of the measured fluid which flows the inside of piping, and is excellent in responsibility in the flow rate of the transient changed in time. Moreover, the measured fluid flow can be efficiently measured with a sufficient precision in an instant also just behind the location where the part where the flow of a fluid is not fully developed, and flow are three dimensions, for example, piping bent like elbow piping or U character-like reversal piping. In comparison with the ultrasonic flowmeter currently offered before it, even if there is "no flow rate correction factor" deduced from the experimental value, the experience value, etc., there is the description that exact measurement is possible, and it is evaluated greatly.

**[0004]****[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention]**

Now, the above-mentioned Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter is premised on the existence of an ultrasonic echo reflected by the air bubbles contained in the measured fluid, and the solid. For this reason, when the flow of a measured fluid is very unstable, the consistency difference of air bubbles etc. may become a cause and dispersion may arise in the measured value of a velocity distribution. When dispersion arises in flow rate distribution, the operation of a flow rate is also influenced.

**[0005]**

Even if the technical problem which this invention tends to solve is the case where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, it is offering the technique about the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

Even if it is the case where dispersion produces the object of invention according to claim 6 from claim 1 in the measured value of a velocity distribution, it is in offering the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

Moreover, even if claim 7 and the object of invention according to claim 8 are the cases where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, they are to offer the measuring method by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

Moreover, even if claim 9 and the object of invention according to claim 10 are the cases where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, they are to offer the program for hydrometry by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

[0006]

**[Means for Solving the Problem]**

In order to solve the above-mentioned technical problem, the following invention is indicated in this application.

[0007]

(Claim 1)

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which invention according to claim 1 carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, Based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid, the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is started. Namely, a velocity-distribution output means to carry out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, A central display means to display the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution in which the velocity-distribution output means carried out the screen output, It is halved bordering on the central display, and has a division distribution selection means in the velocity distribution outputted by which while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ]. Said flow rate operation means It is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured by having chosen while using said division distribution selection means, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

[0008]

(Vocabulary explanation)

When a "flow rate operation means" sets a flow rate to  $m(t)$ ,

[Equation 1]

$$m(t) = \rho \int v(x \cdot t) \cdot dA \quad \dots\dots(1)$$

但し、 $\rho$ ：被測定流量の密度

$v(x \cdot t)$ ：時間  $t$  における速度成分（ $x$  方向）

It is a means to perform \*\*\*\*\*.

Moreover, flowing flow rate [ of time amount  $t$  ]  $m(t)$  can rewrite fluid piping from the above-mentioned formula (1) to a degree type.

[Equation 2]

$$m(t) = \rho \iint vx(r \cdot \theta \cdot t) \cdot r \cdot dr \cdot d\theta \quad \dots\dots(2)$$

但し、 $v_x(r \cdot \theta \cdot t)$  : 時間  $t$  における配管横断面上の中心から距離  $r$  ,  
角度  $\theta$  の管軸方向の速度成分

### [0009]

#### (Operation)

First, an ultrasonic transmitting means carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer. The ultrasonic pulse by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid will be reflected if air bubbles, a solid, etc. which flow the inside of a measured fluid are collided with. The ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the reflected ultrasonic pulses is received, and a fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measures the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field using the Doppler effect.

Then, a velocity-distribution output means carries out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field. A central display means displays the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution in which the velocity-distribution output means carried out the screen output. And while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ] in the velocity distribution which a division distribution selection means is halved bordering on the display of the center by the central display means, and is outputted. A flow rate operation means measures the measured fluid flow in said measurement field by having chosen while using said division distribution selection means, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

According to the above Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeters, even if it is the case where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, a velocity distribution is divided, a user chooses better division distribution, and in order to make the operation of carrying out two times using the velocity distribution of the selected one half perform, it becomes possible about more precise hydrometry.

### [0010]

#### (Claim 2)

The points that invention according to claim 2 chooses automatically selection of the division distribution which invention concerning claim 1 had left to the user differ.

Namely, a division distribution creation means to halve in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and to create two division distribution to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field. It has the automatic selection means which compares two created division distribution and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion. Said flow rate operation means When while chose, it calculates and said automatic selection means carries out two times using division distribution, the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured is started.

### [0011]

#### (Vocabulary explanation)

A "automatic selection means" contains the algorithm of point of measurement being carried out smoothly using techniques, such as spline processing, and choosing small division distribution of meandering width of face or the continuity of the point of measurement for example, in a measured fluid chooses the division distribution at which even the piping wall is maintained.

### [0012]

To the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, a division distribution

creation means halves in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and creates two division distribution. And an automatic selection means compares two created division distribution, and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion. A flow rate operation means measures the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, when while chose, it calculates and an automatic selection means carries out two times using division distribution.

According to the above Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeters, even if it is the case where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, a velocity distribution is divided, better division distribution is chosen automatically, and in order to make the operation of carrying out two times using the velocity distribution of the selected one half perform, it becomes possible about more precise hydrometry.

[0013]

(Claim 3)

Invention according to claim 3 limits a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter according to claim 1 or 2. That is, it has the frequency complement setting device with which a measured fluid chooses automatically as an ultrasonic transmitting means the fundamental-frequency slack optimum frequency which produces a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the tube wall of flowing fluid piping, and the ultrasonic transducer of an ultrasonic transmitting means starts the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that said optimum frequency is oscillated.

[0014]

(The first variation)

A "frequency-selective setting device" chooses optimum frequency as follows, for example. That is, the integral multiple and the measured fluid of the half-wave length of the ultrasonic pulse to set up choose automatically the frequency to which the wall thickness of flowing fluid piping becomes equal as optimum frequency. When the wall thickness of fluid piping carries out the integral multiple of the half-wave length of the fundamental frequency of a supersonic wave, the transparency property of a supersonic wave is based on having carried out the knowledge of the dramatically high thing.

[0015]

(The second variation)

Moreover, the amplifier for an oscillation which makes a "frequency complement setting device" oscillate the supersonic wave of a necessary oscillation frequency from an ultrasonic transducer, The oscillation frequency adjustable equipment which adjusts the oscillation frequency of the amplifier for an oscillation, and a frequency-domain setting-out means to operate the oscillation frequency adjustable equipment in the frequency domain specified beforehand, It is also possible to have an ultrasonic receiving means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field in fluid piping among the ultrasonic pulses oscillated from said ultrasonic transducer, and a reflected wave on-the-strength extract means to extract and memorize the reinforcement of the ultrasonic echo which received.

In the case of the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with these means, there is an advantage that the time and effort concerning the preparation which performs optimal measurement can be mitigated, or the data for improvement amelioration or optimization can be stored.

[0016]

(Operation)

A frequency-selective setting device chooses automatically the fundamental-frequency slack optimum frequency which a measured fluid makes produce a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the tube wall of flowing fluid piping. The ultrasonic transducer of an ultrasonic transmitting means oscillates the optimum frequency chosen automatically. Since optimum frequency is chosen automatically, it becomes the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which is easy to use for a user.

[0017]

(Claim 4)

Invention according to claim 4 limits the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter of a publication to either of claim 1 to claims 3.

That is, it has the incident angle adjustment setting-out means which carries out adjustment setting out of whenever [ incident angle / of the ultrasonic pulse by which incidence is carried out into a measured fluid from an ultrasonic transducer ], and it starts to the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which carried out to fluid piping in the ultrasonic transducer as adjustment setting out is possible so that the incident angle adjustment setting-out means may serve as whenever [ incident angle / which an ultrasonic pulse makes produce a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the tube wall of fluid piping ].

[0018]

(Operation)

An angle-of-incidence adjustment setting-out means carries out adjustment setting out of the incidence include angle of the ultrasonic pulse by which incidence is carried out into a measured fluid from an ultrasonic transducer. The adjustment performs an ultrasonic transducer to fluid piping so that it may become whenever [ angle-of-incidence / which an ultrasonic pulse makes produce a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the tube wall of fluid piping ]. The ultrasonic pulse which is easy to penetrate can be oscillated by this.

[0019]

(Claim 5)

Invention according to claim 5 limits the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter of a publication to either claim 3 or claim 4.

Namely, the second transducer which an ultrasonic transducer makes the shaft orientations of fluid piping estrange the first transducer and its first transducer, and is installed. It has the transducer migration device to which the first transducer and the second transducer are moved relatively. Said transducer migration device The Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter carried out to making it move so that the ultrasonic pulse which the first transducer and the second transducer oscillate may intersect perpendicularly in the measurement field in fluid piping is started.

[0020]

(Operation)

The shaft orientations of fluid piping are made to estrange the first transducer and it, and the second transducer is installed. A transducer migration device can be moved so that the ultrasonic pulse which the first transducer and the second transducer oscillate may intersect perpendicularly in the measurement field in fluid piping. Therefore, it installs to the optimal location of two transducers, and the optimal ultrasonic pulse can be oscillated.

The shaft orientations of fluid piping are made to estrange, and according to two transducers located so that an oscillation pulse might intersect perpendicularly, even if the flow which is not parallel to the shaft orientations of fluid piping exists, a more exact velocity distribution is computable.

[0021]

(Claim 6)

Invention according to claim 6 limits a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter according to claim 5. With namely, the first reflected wave receiver and the second reflected wave receiver which receive the ultrasonic echo which is a reflected wave, respectively from the measurement field in fluid piping of the ultrasonic pulse oscillated from the first transducer and the second transducer A velocity-vector calculation means to compute the velocity vector of the direction of an ultrasonic measurement line, respectively from the reinforcement of the ultrasonic echo received with the first reflected wave receiver and the second reflected wave receiver, It has a rate-of-flow vector calculation means to compute the rate-of-flow vector of the fluid of each velocity vector computed with the velocity-vector calculation means measured [ vector quiet ]. A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measures a velocity distribution using said rate-of-flow vector, and a flow rate operation means starts the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow is calculated using the velocity distribution concerned.

If it puts in another way, in order to compute a more exact velocity distribution and a more exact flow rate from the ultrasonic echo by the ultrasonic pulse which the first transducer and the second transducer oscillate in addition to the requirements for a configuration of a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter according to claim 5, it has a rate-of-flow vector calculation means to once compute the rate-of-flow vector etc.

[0022]

(Operation)

The first reflected wave receiver and the second reflected wave receiver receive the ultrasonic echo which is a reflected wave, respectively from the measurement field in fluid piping of the ultrasonic pulse oscillated from the first transducer and the second transducer. Then, a velocity-vector calculation means computes the velocity vector of the direction of an ultrasonic measurement line, respectively from the reinforcement of the ultrasonic echo received with the first reflected wave receiver and the second reflected wave receiver. And the rate-of-flow vector calculation means computes the rate-of-flow vector of a measured fluid from the vector sum of each computed velocity vector.

A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measures a velocity distribution using said rate-of-flow vector, and a flow rate operation means calculates the measured fluid flow using the velocity distribution concerned.

[0023]

(Claim 7) The ultrasonic transmitting means to which invention according to claim 7 carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, It is the flow rate measurement approach using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid.

Namely, the velocity-distribution output procedure of carrying out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, The central display procedure which displays the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution by which the screen output was carried out in the velocity-distribution output procedure, It is halved bordering on the display of the center by the central display procedure, and has the division distribution selection procedure in the velocity distribution outputted in which while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ]. Said flow rate operation means is the flow rate measurement approach to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured, when while chose, it calculates and a user does two times using division distribution using said division distribution selection procedure.

[0024]

(Claim 8)

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which invention according to claim 8 also carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, Based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid, the flow rate measurement approach using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is started.

Namely, the division distribution creation procedure which halves in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and creates two division distribution to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, It has the automatic selection procedure which compares two created division distribution and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion. Said flow rate operation means It is the flow rate

measurement approach to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured by having chosen while in said automatic selection procedure, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

[0025]

(Claim 9)

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which invention according to claim 9 carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, Based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid, the program for flow rate measurement using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is started.

The velocity-distribution output procedure of carrying out the screen output of the velocity distribution of a measured fluid [ in / in the program / a measurement field ], The central display procedure which displays the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution by which the screen output was carried out in the velocity-distribution output procedure, Are halved bordering on the display of the center by the central display procedure, and while making a computer perform the division distribution selection procedure in the velocity distribution outputted in which while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ] When while chose, it calculates and a user does two times to the flow rate operation means of said Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter using division distribution using said division distribution selection procedure, it is the program for flow rate measurement carried out to making the measured fluid flow in said measurement field measure.

[0026]

(Claim 10)

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which invention according to claim 10 also carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, Based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid, the program for flow rate measurement using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is started.

As opposed to the velocity distribution of a measured fluid [ in / in the program / a measurement field ] The division distribution creation procedure which halves in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and creates two division distribution, While making a computer perform the automatic selection procedure which compares two created division distribution and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion It is the program for flow rate measurement to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured by having chosen while in said automatic selection procedure, and calculating and carrying out two times to the flow rate operation means of said Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter, using division distribution.

[0027]

The computer program concerning claim 9 and claim 10 can be stored in a record medium, and can also be offered. Here, a "record medium" is a medium which can support with itself the program which cannot occupy space, for example, is a flexible disk, a hard disk, CD-ROM, MO (magneto-optic disk), DVD-ROM, PD, etc.

Moreover, it is also possible to transmit to other computers through a communication line from the computer which stored the program concerning these invention.

In addition, it is also possible to form the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with the function concerning claim 1 grade by pre-installing or downloading the program which can attain

each above means to the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with the general-purpose computer.

[0028]

[Embodiment of the Invention]

The gestalt of operation of the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter concerning this invention is explained making an accompanying drawing refer to. The drawings used here are drawing 1 thru/or drawing 12. Drawing 1 and drawing 2 are the conceptual diagrams showing the configuration of the operation gestalt concerning the invention in this application. Drawing 3 and drawing 4 are drawings showing the concrete screen output of a configuration of making the nucleus of the invention in this application. It is drawing for drawing 12 to explain a concrete hardware configuration, a measurement principle, the example of an experiment, etc. from drawing 5.

[0029]

( Drawing 1 )

The user to whom the measured fluid which measures a flow rate using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter concerning this operation gestalt and its Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter uses flowing fluid piping, the output monitor attached to a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter and a manual operating device, and a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter for drawing 1 is illustrated. The ultrasonic transmitting means to which a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, It is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid. In addition, since the formula (1) and the formula (2) show, the operation technique in a flow rate operation means is omitted.

The output monitor and the manual operating device are making the following configurations. That is, it has a velocity-distribution output means carry out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, a central display means display the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution in which the velocity-distribution output means carried out the screen output, and the division distribution selection means in the velocity distribution halved and outputted bordering on the central display that make division distribution selectable [ a user ].

[0030]

Hereafter, actuation of a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter is explained based on drawing 1. first The ultrasonic transducer in an ultrasonic transmitting means carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line. The ultrasonic pulse by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid will be reflected if air bubbles, a solid, etc. which flow the inside of a measured fluid are collided with. The ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the reflected ultrasonic pulses is received, and a fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measures the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field using the Doppler effect.

Then, a velocity-distribution output means carries out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field. A central display means displays the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution in which the velocity-distribution output means carried out the screen output. And while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ] in the velocity distribution which a division distribution selection means is halved bordering on the display of the center by the central display means, and is outputted. A flow rate operation means measures the measured fluid flow in said measurement field by having chosen while using said division distribution selection means, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

[0031]

## ( Drawing 3 and drawing 4 )

Drawing 3 and drawing 4 are the screens which showed concretely the "output monitor & manual operating device" in drawing 1 , and were outputted to the monitor of a computer.

A "velocity-distribution output means" is located in the middle of the screen of drawing 3 .

Namely, the graph which plotted point of measurement is outputted by using an axis of abscissa as a tube diameter, using an axis of ordinate as the rate of flow. In this example of an output, it is being displayed that the "central display means" borders on 160.87 millimeters for fluid piping of 313.26 millimeters of tube diameters.

The "division display means" is prepared for the lower left of a screen. This is for making a user choose either "Near" or "Far" and "diameter." "Near" is left-hand side [ means / central display ] from an ultrasonic transducer in a near location, i.e., a screen. Moreover, with "Far", it is a thing on the right of a central display means in a location distant from an ultrasonic transducer, i.e., a screen. When either "Near" or "Far" is chosen, the measured fluid flow is measured by [ while it was chosen ] carrying out an integration operator using division distribution, and carrying out the two times of it.

In this drawing 3 , the user has chosen "Near." It is because the velocity distribution is ready compared with "Far."

[0032]

In drawing 4 , it is being displayed that the "central display means" borders on 156.46 millimeters for fluid piping of 308.93 millimeters of tube diameters. And the user has chosen "Far" here.

In addition, when a user chooses "diameter", an integration operator is carried out using division distribution of both "Near" and "Far."

[0033]

## ( Drawing 2 )

Then, the operation gestalt shown in drawing 2 is explained.

Suppose that it is not made to choose to a user but the operation gestalt shown in drawing 2 is chosen automatically. Therefore, to the user, since it is unnecessary in the output for selection, it has "velocity-distribution division equipment" instead of being an "output monitor & manual operating device."

This velocity-distribution division equipment has a division distribution creation means halves in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field so that it may illustrate, and create two division distribution, and an automatic selection means compare two created division distribution and make automatic selection in small division distribution of dispersion. And the flow rate operation means of a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter measures the measured fluid flow in said measurement field, when while chose, it calculates and said automatic selection means carries out two times using division distribution. Even if it is the case where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, a velocity distribution is divided, better division distribution is chosen automatically, and in order to make the operation of carrying out two times using the velocity distribution of the selected one half perform, it becomes possible about more precise hydrometry. [0034]

In addition, it is also possible to offer the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which combined with the operation gestalt shown in drawing 1 , and prepared two kinds of the selections and automatic selections by the user. When a user does not choose in the case of such an operation gestalt, the menu of choosing better division distribution automatically can be prepared.

[0035]

Hereafter, a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter is explained to a detail using drawing 12 from drawing 5 .

The Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10 shown in drawing 5 measures the velocity distribution of the measured fluid 12 (a liquid and gas) which flows the inside of the fluid piping 11, can measure a flow rate by the time-dependent in an instant, and is equipped with the ultrasonic velocity-distribution measurement unit (henceforth a Udfow unit) 13 which measures the rate of flow of the measured fluid 12 which flows the inside of piping 11 by non-contact. An ultrasonic transmitting means 15 by which the Udfow unit 13 makes the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary

frequency (fundamental frequency  $f_0$ ) transmit to the measured fluid 12 along with the measurement line ML. A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means 16 to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field of the ultrasonic pulse by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid 12, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid 12 in a measurement field. The computers 17, such as a microcomputer as a flow rate operation means to carry out data processing based on the velocity distribution of the measured fluid 12, to integrate with radial, and to calculate the flow rate of the measured fluid 12 by the time-dependent, and CPU, MPU. It has a frequency-selective setting-out means 19 to select automatically the supersonic wave which is the optimum frequency of the measured fluid 12 which flows the display 18 which can be displayed serially, and the inside of the fluid piping 11 in the output from this computer 17.

[0036]

The ultrasonic transmitting means 15 has the ultrasonic transducer 20 which oscillates the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency, and the amplifier 21 for excitation as a signal generator which makes this ultrasonic transducer 20 excite. The amplifier 21 for excitation is equipped with the oscillator (oscillator) 23 made to generate the electrical signal of the necessary fundamental frequency  $f_0$ , and the emitter 24 (frequency  $F_{rpf}$ ) which outputs the electrical signal from this oscillator 23 in the shape of a pulse to predetermined every time interval ( $1/F_{rpf}$ ). And the pulse electrical signal of the necessary fundamental frequency  $f_0$  is inputted into the ultrasonic transducer 20 from the amplifier 21 for excitation which is this signal generator.

[0037]

The ultrasonic pulse of fundamental frequency  $f_0$  is made to oscillate the ultrasonic transducer 20 along with the measurement line ML by impression of a pulse electrical signal. An ultrasonic pulse is a beam of rectilinear-propagation nature which has almost no flare with the pulse width of about 5mm.

The ultrasonic transducer 20 serves as the transceiver machine, and the ultrasonic transducer 20 receives the ultrasonic echo in which the oscillated ultrasonic pulse is reflected in the reflector in a fluid. A reflector is a foreign matter with which it is the air bubbles uniformly contained in the measured fluid 12, or is particle, such as impalpable powder of aluminum, or acoustic impedances differ in the measured fluid 12 here.

[0038]

It is received by the reflected wave receiver 27 and the ultrasonic echo received by the ultrasonic transducer 20 is changed into an echo electrical signal with the reflected wave receiver 27. This echo electrical signal is digitized through A-D converter 29, after being amplified with an amplifier 28. And the digitized digital echo signal is inputted into the velocity-distribution measurement circuit 26.

The electrical signal of the fundamental frequency  $f_0$  from the amplifier 21 for an oscillation is digitized by the velocity-distribution measurement circuit 30, it is inputted into it, change of the rate of flow based on a doppler shift is measured from the delta frequency of both signals in it, and the velocity distribution of the measurement field which meets the measurement line ML is computed in it. By proofreading the velocity distribution of a measurement field with the tilt angle alpha, the velocity distribution in the cross section of the fluid piping 11 is measurable.

[0039]

Now, in advance of the invention in this application, when the wall thickness in case the fluid piping 11 is metal was  $1/2$  of the fundamental frequency  $f_0$  of a supersonic wave, or its integral multiple, the knowledge of the transparency property of a supersonic wave being dramatically high was carried out. Then, based on this knowledge, the fundamental frequency  $f_0$  of the ultrasonic pulse oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 constitutes the frequency-selective setting-out means 19 so that the optimum value which produces a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the wall thickness of the fluid piping 11 may be chosen freely and automatically. The oscillation frequency adjustable equipment 31 whose adjustment setting out this frequency-selective setting-out means 19 fluctuates the oscillation frequency of the amplifier 21 for excitation mentioned above, and its amplifier 21 for excitation, and is enabled. A fundamental-

frequency field setting-out means 32 to operate oscillation frequency adjustable equipment 31 within limits (for example, inside of a frequency domain of 200kHz – 4MHz) which the user specified as this oscillation frequency adjustable equipment 31 beforehand. With the reflected wave receiver 27 which receives the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field in the fluid piping 11. The amplifier 28 which amplifies and agitates the received ultrasonic echo signal, and a reflected wave on-the-strength extract means 33 to extract and memorize the reinforcement of the ultrasonic echo signal agitated with the amplifier 28. It has the display 18 equipped with the reflected wave display function on the strength on which the reflectivity (ultrasonic echo intensity) extracted and memorized with this reflected wave on-the-strength extract means 33 is displayed.

[0040]

Thus, the constituted frequency-selective setting-out means 19 sets up the optimum frequency which produces a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the wall thickness of the fluid piping 11 according to a collaboration operation of the reflected wave on-the-strength extract means 33, oscillation frequency adjustable equipment 31, etc. The set-up optimum frequency determines the oscillation frequency of oscillation amplifier, and makes the ultrasonic transducer 20 excite with the output signal from oscillation frequency adjustable equipment 31. And the ultrasonic pulse of the fundamental frequency  $f_0$  which is optimum frequency is oscillated into the fluid piping 11 from the ultrasonic transducer 20.

Since the ultrasonic pulse of optimum frequency is oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20, sufficient reflected wave S/N ratio can be secured and the large ultrasonic echo signal which is a reflected wave can be taken. That is, since the ultrasonic pulse which produces a resonance-transparency phenomenon is oscillated, the permeability of the fluid piping 11 is dramatically high, and sufficient reflected wave reinforcement can be obtained.

[0041]

In addition, in order to oscillate smoothly the supersonic wave oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 into the fluid piping 11, the jelly-like contact medium 35 is made to intervene between the ultrasonic transducer 20 and the fluid piping 11.

Moreover, although it mentioned above noting that the reflected wave receiver 27 received the reflected wave, it is possible to make a reception function build in the ultrasonic transducer 20, and to also make it substitute.

[0042]

Next, the working principle of the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10 is explained, making drawing 6 refer to.

As shown in drawing 6 (A), after only the incline angle alpha has leaned and installed the ultrasonic transducer 20 in the flow direction of the measured body to the radiation direction of piping 11. When incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of the necessary frequency  $f_0$  is carried out from the ultrasonic transducer 20, as this ultrasonic pulse is reflected in the measured fluid 12 on the measurement line ML in the reflector distributed uniformly and it is shown in drawing 6 (B). It is set to ultrasonic echo a and returned to the ultrasonic transducer 20.

Here, the sign b in drawing 6 (B) is a multiple reflection echo reflected with the tube wall by the side of ultrasonic pulse incidence. Moreover, Sign c is a multiple reflection echo reflected with a reverse by-pass wall. Oscillation spacing of the ultrasonic pulse oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 is  $1/F_{rp}$ .

If filtering processing of the echo signal received by the ultrasonic transducer 20 is carried out and a velocity distribution is measured along with the measurement line ML using the doppler shift method, it will be displayed like drawing 6 (C). This velocity distribution can be measured with the fluid velocity-distribution measurement means 16 of the Udfow unit 13.

[0043]

The "doppler shift method" is the approach of applying the principle to which only the magnitude to which it was reflected by the reflector (for example, air bubbles) of mixture or uniform distribution into the fluid 12, and became an ultrasonic echo, and the frequency of this ultrasonic echo is proportional to the rate of flow when the ultrasonic pulse was emitted into flowing fluid 12 carries out the frequency shift of the inside of piping 11, and measuring the rate of flow here.

The velocity-distribution signal of the measured fluid 12 measured with the ultrasonic fluid velocity-distribution measurement means 16 can be sent to the computer 17 as a flow rate operation means, can integrate with a velocity-distribution signal to radial [ of piping 11 ] here, and can calculate the flow rate of the measured fluid 12 by the time-dependent. Since it is the formula (1) and formula (2) which were mentioned above about the formula of the flow rate count, the explanation to repeat is omitted.

[0044]

In addition, the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10 by this operation gestalt can acquire the spatial distribution of the flow of the measured fluid 12 by the formula (2) with the speed of response of instant, for example, 50msec(s), - 100msec extent. the case where time fluctuation exists by the case where sufficient run-up section cannot be taken even if the measured fluid 12 is the flow in piping (tube) 11, closing motion of a valve, starting, a halt of a pump, etc. -- the flow of a fluid -- an unstationary state -- three-dimensions distribution -- \*\*\*\*, although it is since this Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10 can search for the velocity distribution of a measurement field by the time-dependent in an instant -- the flow rate of the measured fluid 12 -- a steady state and an unstationary state -- how cannot be asked but accuracy can be asked with a sufficient precision.

[0045]

(Check experiment of a transparency property)

The check experiment of the transparency property of the supersonic wave oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 was conducted using the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10 by this operation gestalt.

This Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10 can carry out adjustment setting out of the fundamental frequency of the supersonic wave oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 by the frequency complement setting-out means 19 automatically in a 5kHz unit from 200kHz to several MHz (for example, 2MHz).

The wall surface radiographic examination of a supersonic wave embeds stainless steel at a part of acrylic piping of the diameter of 250mm, and installs the ultrasonic transducer 20 to the wall exterior of this stainless steel. And incidence of the supersonic wave was carried out changing fundamental frequency, and the reflectivity of the supersonic wave from the confrontation side-attachment-wall side of acrylic piping was investigated.

[0046]

( Drawing 7 )

In the wall surface transparency experiment of a supersonic wave, the wall thickness of stainless steel prepared three kinds which are 9.5 millimeters, 11.5 millimeters, and 13.0 millimeters. Moreover, fundamental frequency of the supersonic wave oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 was made into three kinds, 0.25kHz, 0.5kHz, and 1MHz. Drawing 7 shows the example of a wall surface transparency experiment of the supersonic wave by 9.5-millimeter stainless steel. An axis of abscissa is the fundamental frequency  $f_0$  of a supersonic wave, and an axis of ordinate is the reflectivity of the supersonic wave from a confrontation wall. Among drawing 7, h and 0.5kHz show by i and 1MHz shows [ 0.25kHz ] the transparency curve of a reflected wave on the strength by j.

Now, the upward arrow heads l, m, and n in drawing 7 show the relation between the wavelength of the oscillation frequency of a supersonic wave, and the wall thickness of stainless steel. That is, the 1/2, the actual size of the wall thickness of stainless steel, and 3/2 twice as many frequency location as this is shown from the one where wavelength is lower.

From drawing 7, if fundamental frequency is set as about 910kHz according to the piping wall thickness of stainless steel when choosing a 1MHz supersonic wave and using the ultrasonic transducer 20, it can grasp that the transparency property of a supersonic wave is good. The transparency curve j of a frequency on the strength can grasp that the transparency reinforcement of a reflected wave is high in the location of an arrow head n.

[0047]

( Drawing 8 )

Fluid piping by 9.5 millimeters of wall thickness and carbon steel with a bore of 150 millimeters

was prepared, the 1MHz supersonic wave was chosen and the ultrasonic transducer 20 was used, it set up so that the fundamental frequency f0 oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 by the frequency complement setting device 19 might be set to 910kHz, and the velocity distribution of a measured fluid was measured. Drawing 8 shows the result of time amount mean velocity distribution of the measured fluid obtained in the measurement experiment.

Since the measure point of the velocity distribution of a measured fluid was difficult to acquire velocity distribution sufficient for an echo of the supersonic wave in the interior of a wall in a near side (the range of 0–60 millimeters) from the tubing core in fluid piping, it was made into the range where the effect of a wall surface could not appear easily to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid 12 and which is 60–150 millimeters. And the comparatively smooth average velocity-distribution curve (inside O of drawing) was obtained.

From this average velocity-distribution curve O, by integrating with an average velocity distribution within the fluid piping 11, it is accurate and the flow rate of the measured fluid 12 which flows the inside of the fluid piping 11 can be measured a contacted condition.

[0048]

By the way, in this measurement, while a velocity distribution is once acquired and carries out a monitor output about the 0–150-millimeter whole, the technique display a "center" on 75 millimeters of central slack, and a user chooses the side which acquired comparatively smooth or sufficient velocity distribution in two measurement results divided in that center is the technique mentioned above using drawing 1 etc. Furthermore, it becomes choosing automatically good among two measurement results divided in the center, then the technique mentioned above using drawing 2.

[0049]

( Drawing 9 )

Drawing 9 is the variation of the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter shown in drawing 5, and describes it as Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10A.

Instead of selecting the optimum frequency of the ultrasonic pulse which carries out incidence into the fluid piping 11, how to change the wall thickness of the fluid piping 11 theoretically, and to produce a resonance-transparency phenomenon as an approach of raising the S/N ratio of a reflected wave can be considered. However, actually, the method of changing the wall thickness of the fluid piping 11 is impossible. Then, it has the device in which whenever [ setting-angle / of the ultrasonic transducer 20 to the fluid piping 11 ] is changed as changing the wall thickness of the fluid piping 11, and an equal means. That is, the frequency selection setting-out means 19 which carried out adjustment setting out of the alpha whenever [ incident angle / of the ultrasonic transducer 20 ], and was equipped with the incident angle adjustment setting-out means 40 which can select automatically whenever [ incident angle / of the supersonic wave which suits the wall thickness of the fluid piping 11 ], and it had with the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10 is omitted. Here, alpha is an include angle formed between the vertical line on the front face of tubing of the fluid piping 11, or a vertical plane whenever [ incident angle / of the supersonic wave oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 ].

[0050]

The ultrasonic transducer 20 to which the incident angle adjustment setting-out means 40 enabled accommodation of whenever [ setting-angle ] from the outside to the fluid piping 11, alpha in the range of the incident angle beforehand specified as the incident angle translator 41 in which adjustment setting out is possible (for example, 5 – 45 degrees) whenever [ incident angle / of the ultrasonic pulse oscillated from this ultrasonic transducer 20 ] It has an incident angle field setting-out means 43 to operate the incident angle translator 41, and a reflected wave on-the-strength extract means 44 to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected, and to extract and memorize the reinforcement. The ultrasonic echo intensity extracted and memorized with the reflected wave on-the-strength extract means 44 is displayed with the display 18 equipped with the reflected wave display function on the strength.

[0051]

By the incident angle translator 41, this incident angle adjustment setting-out means 40 can change whenever [ setting-angle / of the ultrasonic transducer 20 to the fluid piping 11 ], and

can change alpha in about 5 – 45 degrees whenever [ incident angle / of a supersonic wave ]. Specifically, it attains by making a stepping motor 46 drive with the output signal outputted from the incident angle translator 41, and making a mounting angle adjustment device drive with the stepping motor 46 so that it may illustrate in drawing 9 .

[0052]

alpha is set up with the incident angle adjustment setting-out means 40 as optimal include angle which produces a resonance-transparency phenomenon to the wall thickness of the fluid piping 11 whenever [ incident angle / of the ultrasonic pulse oscillated from the ultrasonic transducer 20 ]. It is the same as changing wall thickness physically and trying for a resonance-transparency phenomenon to arise, without changing the frequency of an ultrasonic pulse. Since incidence of the ultrasonic pulse which a resonance-transparency phenomenon produces is carried out and sufficient reflected wave S/N ratio can be secured, an ultrasonic echo reflects and the velocity distribution and flow rate of the measured fluid 12 can be measured with a sufficient precision to accuracy.

[0053]

In addition, naturally it is also possible to manufacture and adopt the ultrasonic transducer 20 which built in the function of the incident angle adjustment setting-out means 40 mentioned above, i.e., the function in which whenever [ incident angle / of a supersonic wave ] can be changed.

By the way, although explained having established the incident angle adjustment setting-out means 40 mentioned above instead of the frequency selection setting-out means 19 similarly mentioned above, naturally it is also possible to have combining the both-hands stages 40 and 19. In that case, whenever [ optimal incident angle ], and optimum frequency will be chosen automatically, and will be set up. For example, when the rate of flow is very quick and whenever [ incident angle ] is large, there is a possibility of being hard that it may come to receive an ultrasonic echo. In such a case, whenever [ incident angle ] is set up small and priority is given to adjustment of optimum frequency.

[0054]

Since the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeters 10 and 10A shown in drawing 9 from drawing 5 are the measuring methods depending on the measurement line ML, increasing the number of the measurement lines ML brings them close to field measurement, and it links them with raising the accuracy of measurement directly. Then, the ultrasonic transducer 20 of N individual is installed in the hoop direction of the fluid piping 11 for every predetermined spacing. Moreover, while doing include-angle alpha dip of the measurement line ML of all the ultrasonic transducers 20 to the perpendicular to a tube wall, it is desirable to install so that the axis of the fluid piping 11 may be intersected.

[0055]

Now, supposing the flow of the measured fluid 12 which flows the inside of piping 11 can disregard radial, the flow vr of an include angle theta, and vtheta by the flow of the direction of a tube axis, it is set to vx>>vr=vtheta, and it is simplified and flow rate measurement is expressed with a degree type.

[Equation 3]

$$m(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N \cdot \frac{2\pi}{N} \int_{-R}^R \{vx(r \cdot \theta_i \cdot t) / \sin \alpha\} \cdot r \cdot dr \quad .....(3)$$

Thus, the flow rate of the called-for measured fluid 12 can be displayed by the time-dependent with a display 18 in an instant. The velocity distribution which meets the measurement line ML in the piping 11 of the measured fluid 12, or the velocity distribution in the piping cross section can also be displayed on this display 18.

[0056]

Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10B shown in drawing 12 from drawing 10 is to compute the exact rate of flow and a flow rate, even if the flow of the measured fluid 12 is a case as the

turning style has arisen within the fluid piping 11 to the fluid piping 11 when not parallel for example.

For example, the velocity vector V3 shown in drawing 11 is not parallel to the fluid piping 11. Suppose that it was going to compute the rate of flow by this velocity vector V3. That is, a supersonic wave reflects in the air bubbles which are flowing along with this velocity vector V3, and suppose that only the ultrasonic transducer 20 received that ultrasonic reflective echo. Then, a velocity vector V3 will be computed as an parallel velocity vector V1 to the fluid piping 11, and will become larger than the actual rate of flow.

[0057]

Then, the ultrasonic transducer 20 installed like before and its ultrasonic transducer 20 make an ultrasonic transducer combination with second ultrasonic transducer 20a which the shaft orientations of the fluid piping 11 are made to estrange, and is installed. It is supposed that it installs in a location where the ultrasonic transducer 20 and ultrasonic transducer 20 of \*\* second a, and each ultrasonic pulse to oscillate cross at right angles in the measurement field in fluid piping.

Since second ultrasonic transducer 20a can ask for velocity vectors V2, V4, and V5, it can compute the original velocity vector V3 from relation with a velocity vector V1.

[0058]

In addition, in drawing 12, the configuration of the ultrasonic transducer concerning this operation gestalt is explained. That is, it has the first ultrasonic transducer 20 and ultrasonic transducer 20 of \*\* second a, and the transducer migration device 46 to which these transducers 20 and 20a are moved relatively. And the transducer migration device 46 is equipped with the structure to which it is made to move so that the ultrasonic pulse which the first transducer 20 and second transducer 20a oscillate may intersect perpendicularly in the measurement field in fluid piping.

Transducers 20 and 20a are equipped with the reflected wave receivers 27 and 27a and the velocity-vector calculation means 47 and 47a, respectively, and the rate-of-flow vector calculation means 48 computes the final velocity vector V3 from the vector sum of the velocity vector computed based on the velocity-vector calculation means 47 and 47a.

[0059]

According to Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10B shown in drawing 12 from drawing 10, to the fluid piping 11, even if the flow direction of the measured fluid 12 is the case which is not parallel, it can carry out vector operation of the flow direction, and can compute the exact rate of flow and a flow rate.

In addition, if the tubing hoop direction of the fluid piping 11 is made to carry out two or more locations and this Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter 10B that made the lot the first ultrasonic transducer 20 and ultrasonic transducer 20 of \*\* second a is combined with it, the more exact rate of flow and a flow rate are computable.

[0060]

#### [Effect of the Invention]

Even if it was the case where dispersion arose from claim 1 in the measured value of a velocity distribution according to invention according to claim 6, the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible was able to be offered.

Moreover, according to claim 7 and invention according to claim 8, even if it was the case where dispersion arose in the measured value of a velocity distribution, the measuring method by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible was able to be offered.

Moreover, according to claim 9 and invention according to claim 10, even if it was the case where dispersion arose in the measured value of a velocity distribution, the program for hydrometry by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible was able to be offered.

#### [Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the conceptual diagram showing the configuration of an operation gestalt.

[Drawing 2] It is the conceptual diagram showing the configuration of an operation gestalt.

[Drawing 3] It is drawing showing the screen outputted to the monitor of a computer.

[Drawing 4] It is drawing showing the screen outputted to the monitor of a computer.

[Drawing 5] It is drawing showing the hardware configuration of an operation gestalt.

[Drawing 6] It is drawing for explaining the working principle of a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter.

[Drawing 7] It is drawing showing the example of a wall surface transparency experiment of a supersonic wave.

[Drawing 8] The result of time amount mean velocity distribution of the measured fluid obtained in the measurement experiment is shown.

[Drawing 9] It is hardware configuration drawing showing the operation gestalt which can change whenever [ incident angle / of a supersonic wave ].

[Drawing 10] It is drawing which indicated the flow which is not parallel by the vector to fluid piping.

[Drawing 11] It is drawing showing the principle which is equipped with two or more ultrasonic transducers in the direction of a tube axis, and measures the flow which is not parallel to fluid piping.

[Drawing 12] It is a signal-processing block diagram at the time of having two or more ultrasonic transducers in the direction of a tube axis.

[Description of Notations]

10, 10A, and 10B Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter

11 Fluid Piping 12 Measured Fluid

13 Ultrasonic Velocity-Distribution Measurement Unit (Udflow Unit)

15 Ultrasonic Transmitting Means 16 Fluid Velocity-Distribution Measurement Means

17 Computer (Fluid Flow Rate Operation Means)

18 displays 19 Frequency-selective setting-out means

20 20a Ultrasonic transducer

21 Amplifier for Oscillation (Signal Generator)

23 Oscillator (Oscillator) 24 Emitter

27 Reflected Wave Receiver (Ultrasonic Receiving Means)

28 Amplifier 29 A/D Converter

30 Velocity-Distribution Measurement Circuit 31 Oscillation Frequency Adjustable Equipment

32 Fundamental-Frequency Field Setting-Out Means 33 Reflected Wave on-the-Strength

Extract Means

35 Contact Medium

40 It is Accommodation Setting-Out Means whenever [ Incident Angle ]. 41 It is Translator whenever [ Incident Angle ].

43 It is Field Setting-Out Means whenever [ Incident Angle ]. 44 Reflected Wave on-the-Strength Extract Means

46 Ultrasonic Transducer Migration Device

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[Translation done.]

**\* NOTICES \***

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- 1.This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
- 2.\*\*\*\* shows the word which can not be translated.
- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

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**TECHNICAL FIELD**

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**[Field of the Invention]** This invention relates to the technique relevant to the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter and it which can measure the measured fluid flow by the time-dependent from the velocity distribution of a measurement field in an instant.

**[0002]**

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**[Translation done.]**

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**PRIOR ART**

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**[Description of the Prior Art]**

even if it is the flow of an unstationary state in JP,2000-97742,A -- a time-dependent -- accuracy -- precision -- the measurable Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter is indicated by non-contact [ high ].

The Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter indicated here makes the following configurations. That is, the ultrasonic echo reflected from a measurement field among an ultrasonic transmitting means carry out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into a measured fluid along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, and the ultrasonic pulse by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid receives, and it has a fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, and a flow rate operation means perform an integration operator based on the velocity distribution of the above-mentioned measured fluid. And a flow rate operation means measures a flow rate based on the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field.

**[0003]**

This Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter measures the velocity distribution of the measured fluid which flows the inside of piping, and is excellent in responsibility in the flow rate of the transient changed in time. Moreover, the measured fluid flow can be efficiently measured with a sufficient precision in an instant also just behind the location where the part where the flow of a fluid is not fully developed, and flow are three dimensions, for example, piping bent like elbow piping or U character-like reversal piping. In comparison with the ultrasonic flowmeter currently offered before it, even if there is "no flow rate correction factor" deduced from the experimental value, the experience value, etc., there is the description that exact measurement is possible, and it is evaluated greatly.

**[0004]**

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**[Translation done.]**

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**EFFECT OF THE INVENTION**

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**[Effect of the Invention]**

Even if it was the case where dispersion arose from claim 1 in the measured value of a velocity distribution according to invention according to claim 6, the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible was able to be offered.

Moreover, according to claim 7 and invention according to claim 8, even if it was the case where dispersion arose in the measured value of a velocity distribution, the measuring method by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible was able to be offered.

Moreover, according to claim 9 and invention according to claim 10, even if it was the case where dispersion arose in the measured value of a velocity distribution, the program for hydrometry by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible was able to be offered.

---

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**TECHNICAL PROBLEM**

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**[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention]**

Now, the above-mentioned Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter is premised on the existence of an ultrasonic echo reflected by the air bubbles contained in the measured fluid, and the solid. For this reason, when the flow of a measured fluid is very unstable, the consistency difference of air bubbles etc. may become a cause and dispersion may arise in the measured value of a velocity distribution. When dispersion arises in flow rate distribution, the operation of a flow rate is also influenced.

**[0005]**

Even if the technical problem which this invention tends to solve is the case where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, it is offering the technique about the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

Even if it is the case where dispersion produces the object of invention according to claim 6 from claim 1 in the measured value of a velocity distribution, it is in offering the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

Moreover, even if claim 7 and the object of invention according to claim 8 are the cases where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, they are to offer the measuring method by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

Moreover, even if claim 9 and the object of invention according to claim 10 are the cases where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, they are to offer the program for hydrometry by the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter which makes more precise hydrometry possible.

**[0006]**

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**MEANS**

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**[Means for Solving the Problem]**

In order to solve the above-mentioned technical problem, the following invention is indicated in this application.

**[0007]**

(Claim 1)

The ultrasonic transmitting means to which invention according to claim 1 carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer, A fluid velocity-distribution measurement means to receive the ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the ultrasonic pulses by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid, and to measure the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, Based on the velocity distribution of said measured fluid, the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter equipped with a flow rate operation means to calculate the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is started. Namely, a velocity-distribution output means to carry out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, A central display means to display the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution in which the velocity-distribution output means carried out the screen output, It is halved bordering on the central display, and has a division distribution selection means in the velocity distribution outputted by which while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ]. Said flow rate operation means It is the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured by having chosen while using said division distribution selection means, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

**[0008]**

(Vocabulary explanation)

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## OPERATION

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### (Operation)

First, an ultrasonic transmitting means carries out incidence of the ultrasonic pulse of a necessary frequency into the measured fluid in fluid piping along with a measurement line from an ultrasonic transducer. The ultrasonic pulse by which incidence was carried out to the measured fluid will be reflected if air bubbles, a solid, etc. which flow the inside of a measured fluid are collided with. The ultrasonic echo reflected from the measurement field among the reflected ultrasonic pulses is received, and a fluid velocity-distribution measurement means measures the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field using the Doppler effect.

Then, a velocity-distribution output means carries out the screen output of the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field. A central display means displays the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid to the velocity distribution in which the velocity-distribution output means carried out the screen output. And while makes division distribution selectable [ a user ] in the velocity distribution which a division distribution selection means is halved bordering on the display of the center by the central display means, and is outputted. A flow rate operation means measures the measured fluid flow in said measurement field by having chosen while using said division distribution selection means, and calculating and carrying out two times using division distribution.

According to the above Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeters, even if it is the case where dispersion arises in the measured value of a velocity distribution, a velocity distribution is divided, a user chooses better division distribution, and in order to make the operation of carrying out two times using the velocity distribution of the selected one half perform, it becomes possible about more precise hydrometry.

### [0010]

#### (Claim 2)

The points that invention according to claim 2 chooses automatically selection of the division distribution which invention concerning claim 1 had left to the user differ.

Namely, a division distribution creation means to halve in the center of the point of measurement in a measured fluid, and to create two division distribution to the velocity distribution of the measured fluid in a measurement field, It has the automatic selection means which compares two created division distribution and makes automatic selection of the small division distribution of dispersion. Said flow rate operation means When while chose, it calculates and said automatic selection means carries out two times using division distribution, the Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter to which it was presupposed that the measured fluid flow in said measurement field is measured is started.

### [0011]

#### (Vocabulary explanation)

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[Translation done.]

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## DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

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**[Brief Description of the Drawings]**

**[Drawing 1]** It is the conceptual diagram showing the configuration of an operation gestalt.

**[Drawing 2]** It is the conceptual diagram showing the configuration of an operation gestalt.

**[Drawing 3]** It is drawing showing the screen outputted to the monitor of a computer.

**[Drawing 4]** It is drawing showing the screen outputted to the monitor of a computer.

**[Drawing 5]** It is drawing showing the hardware configuration of an operation gestalt.

**[Drawing 6]** It is drawing for explaining the working principle of a Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter.

**[Drawing 7]** It is drawing showing the example of a wall surface transparency experiment of a supersonic wave.

**[Drawing 8]** The result of time amount mean velocity distribution of the measured fluid obtained in the measurement experiment is shown.

**[Drawing 9]** It is hardware configuration drawing showing the operation gestalt which can change whenever [ incident angle / of a supersonic wave ].

**[Drawing 10]** It is drawing which indicated the flow which is not parallel by the vector to fluid piping.

**[Drawing 11]** It is drawing showing the principle which is equipped with two or more ultrasonic transducers in the direction of a tube axis, and measures the flow which is not parallel to fluid piping.

**[Drawing 12]** It is a signal-processing block diagram at the time of having two or more ultrasonic transducers in the direction of a tube axis.

**[Description of Notations]**

10, 10A, and 10B Doppler type ultrasonic flowmeter

11 Fluid Piping 12 Measured Fluid

13 Ultrasonic Velocity-Distribution Measurement Unit (Udfow Unit)

15 Ultrasonic Transmitting Means 16 Fluid Velocity-Distribution Measurement Means

17 Computer

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[Translation done.]

**\* NOTICES \***

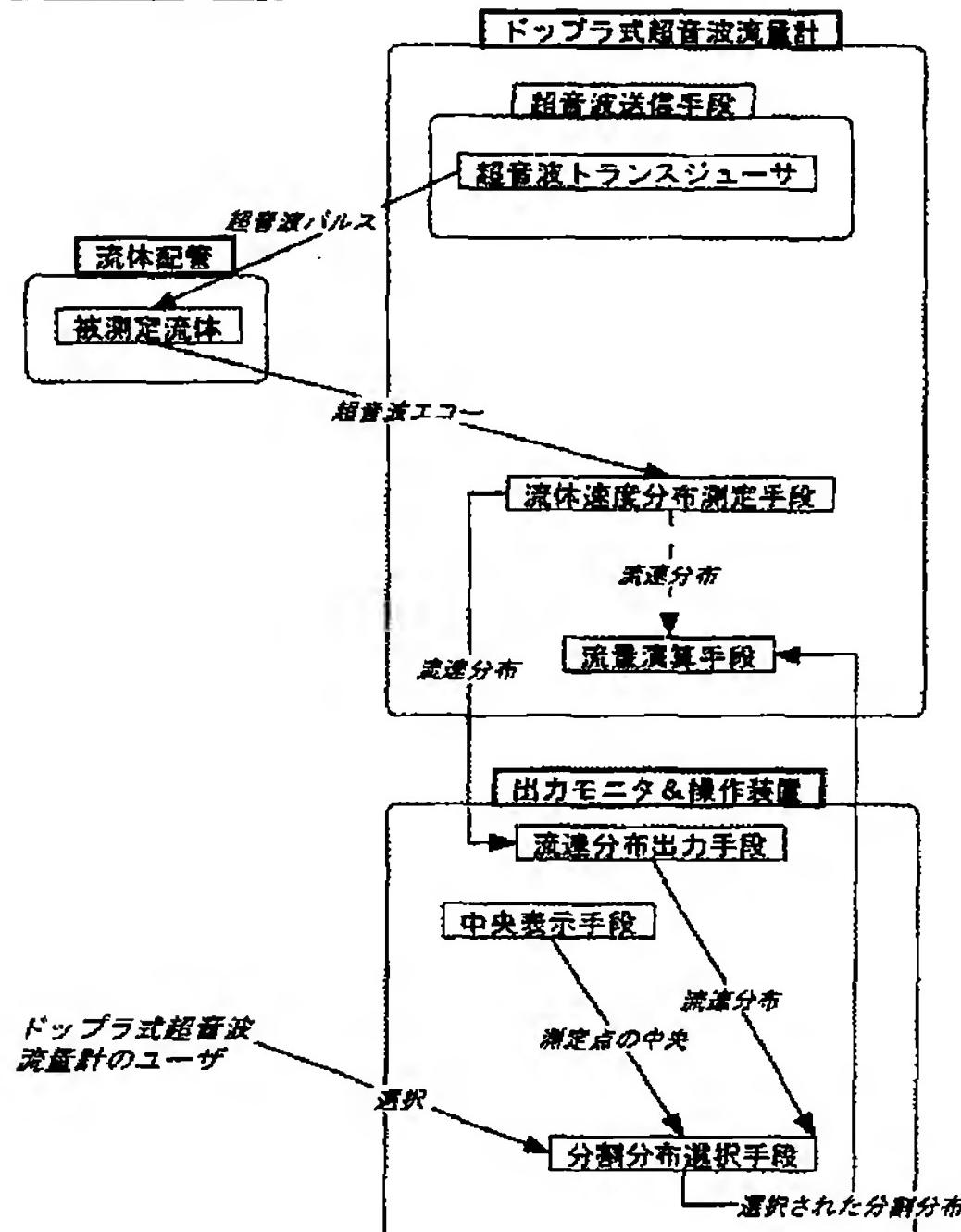
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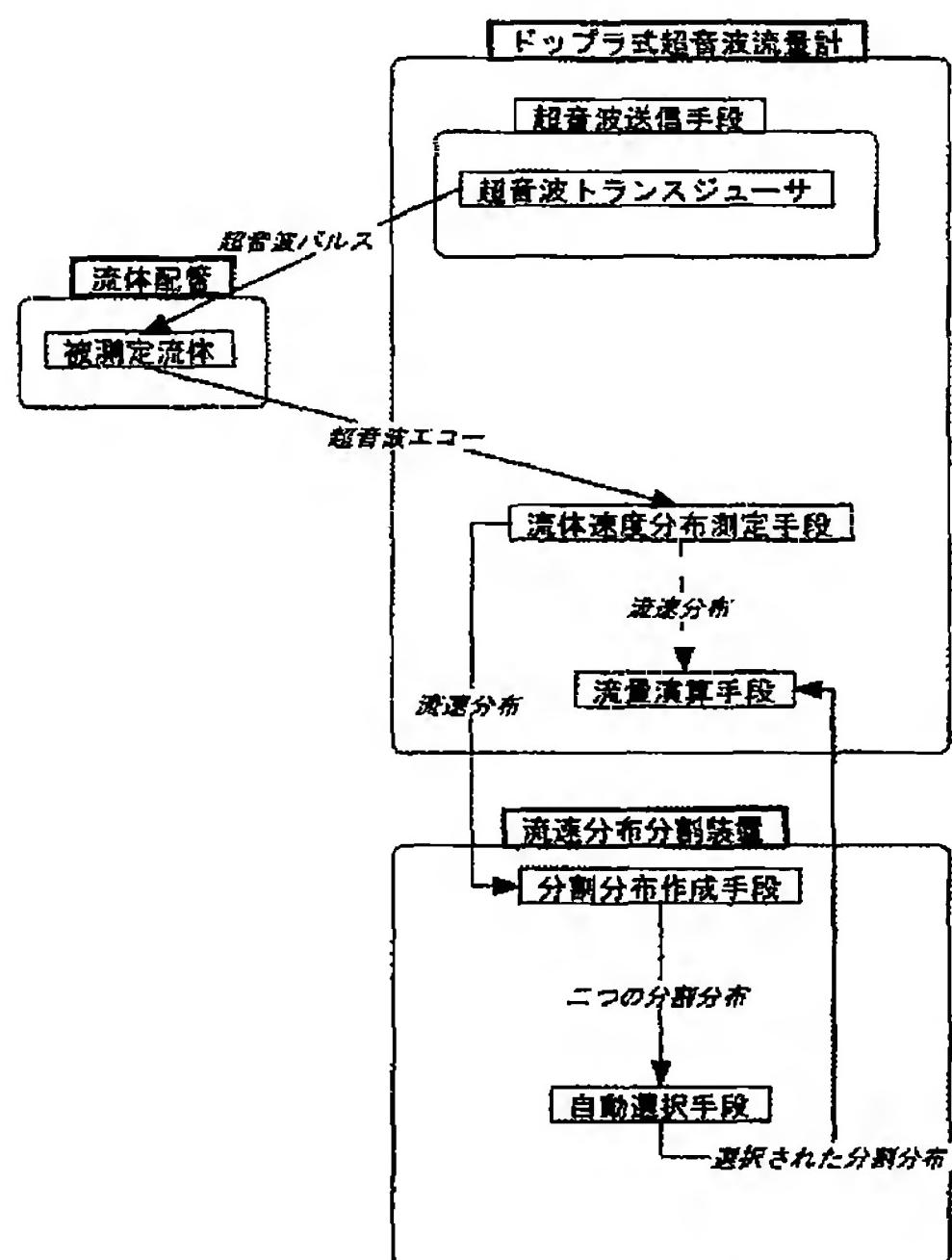
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- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

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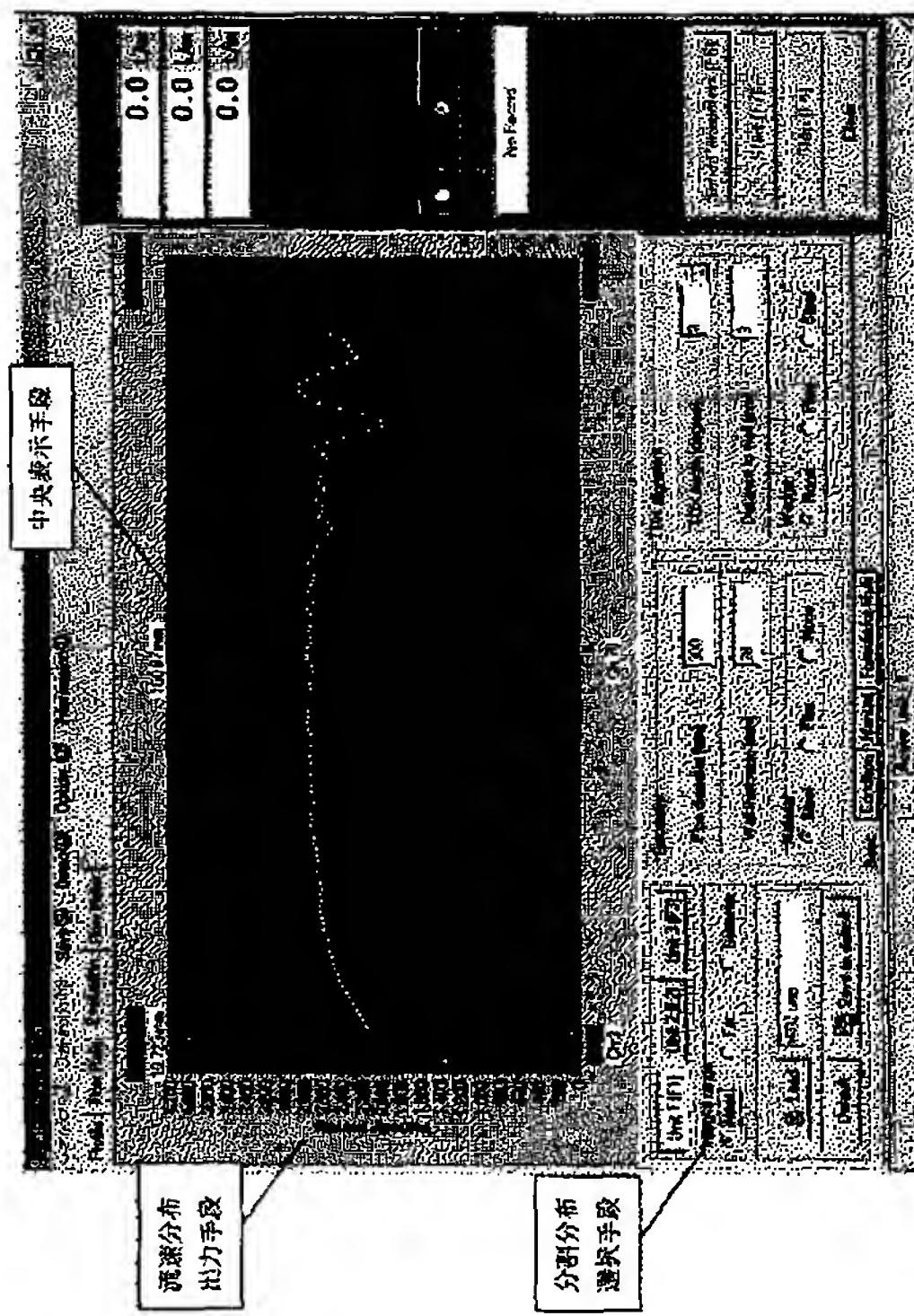
**DRAWINGS**

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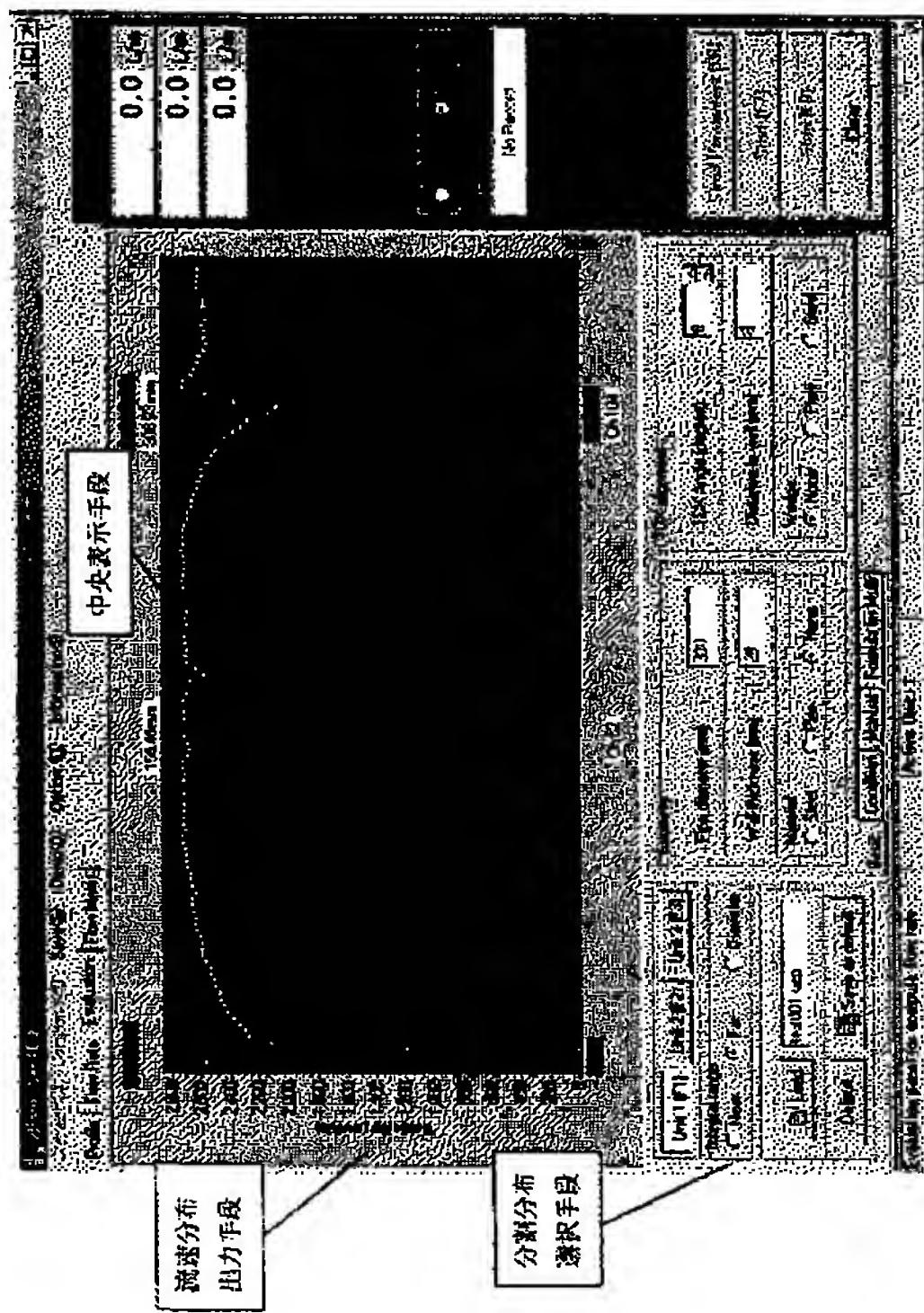
**[Drawing 1]****[Drawing 2]**



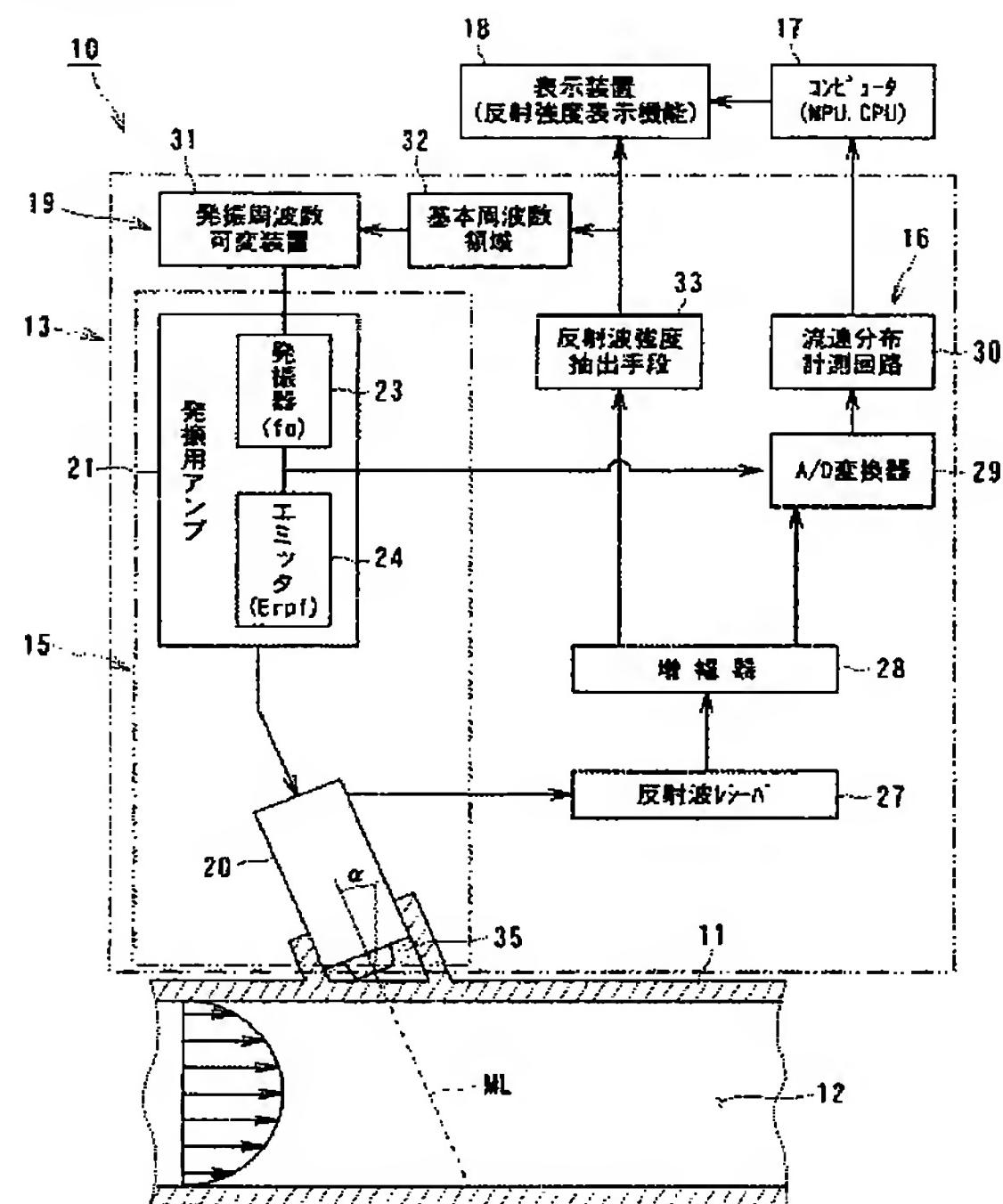
[Drawing 3]



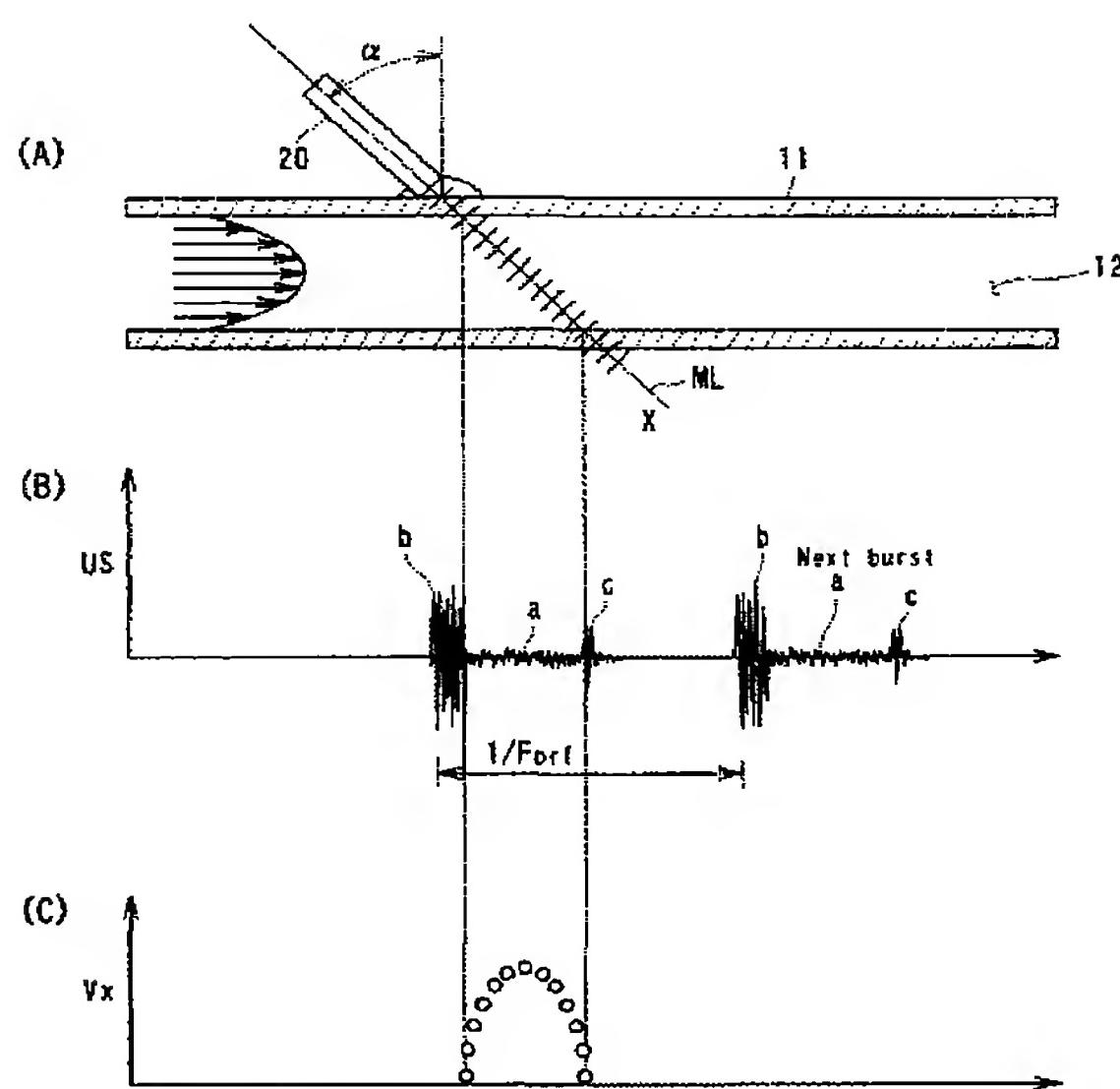
[Drawing 4]



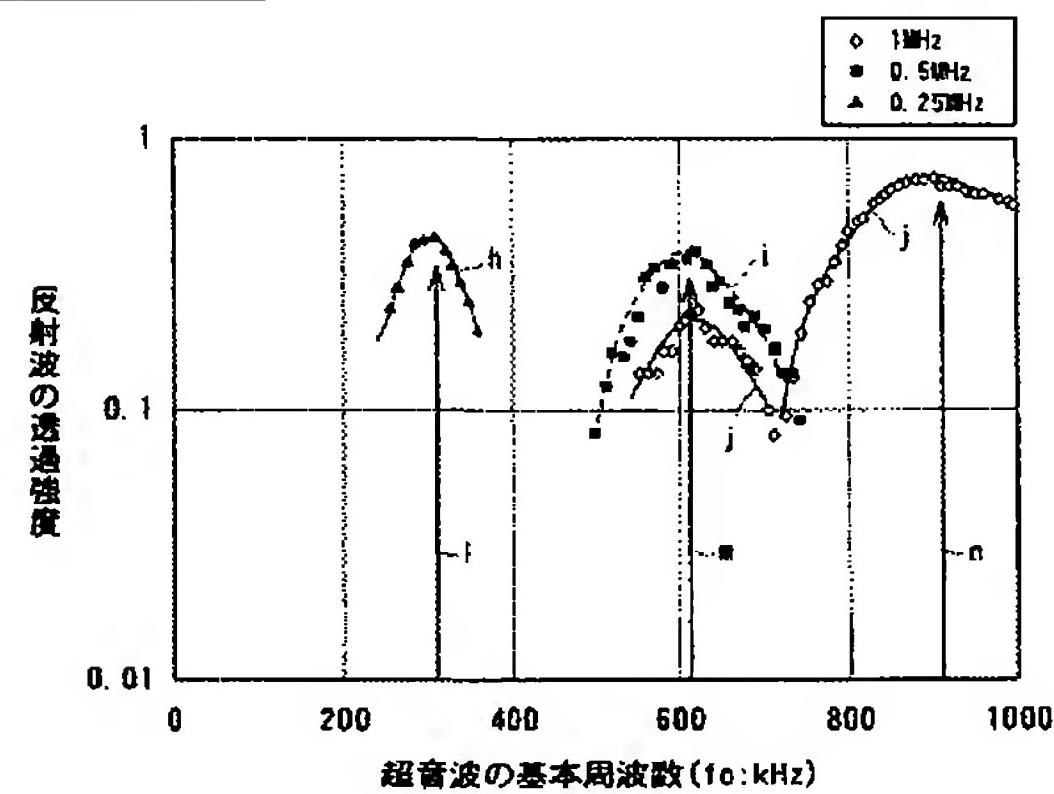
[Drawing 5]



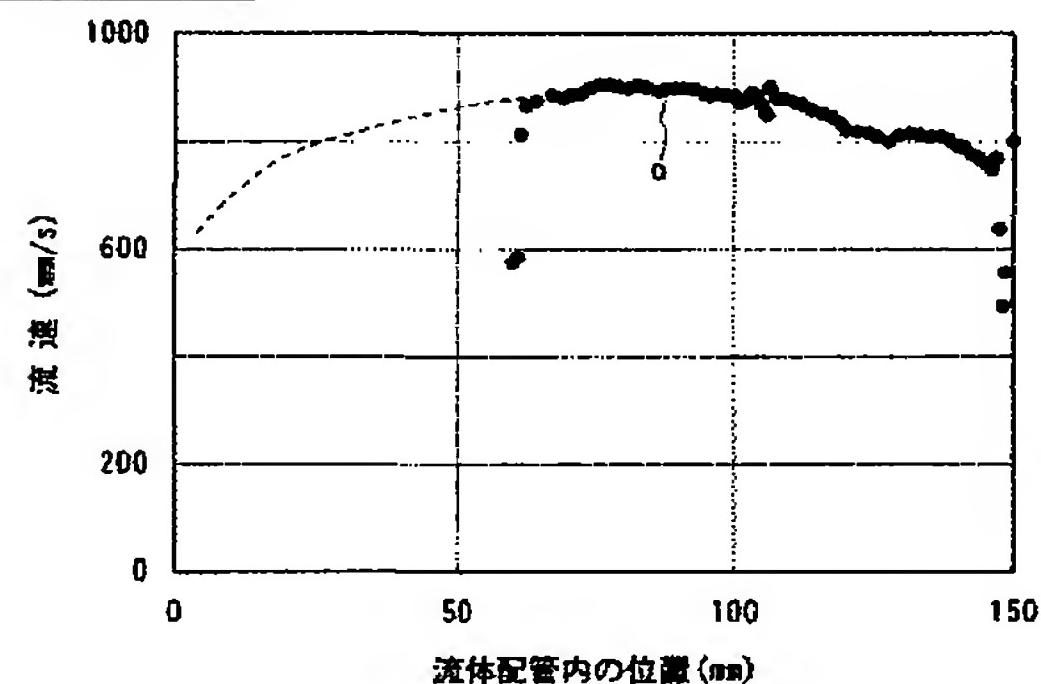
[Drawing 6]



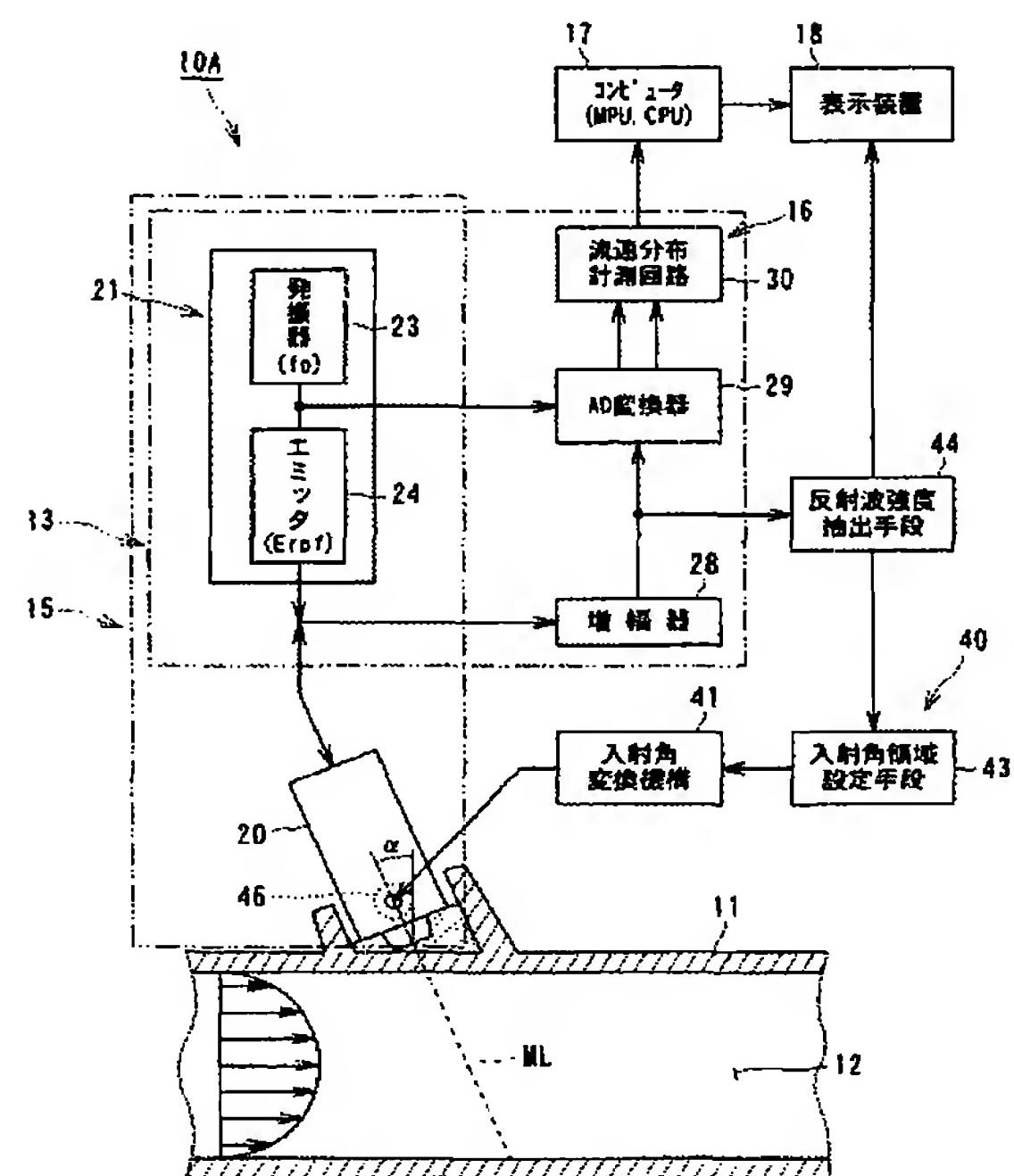
[Drawing 7]



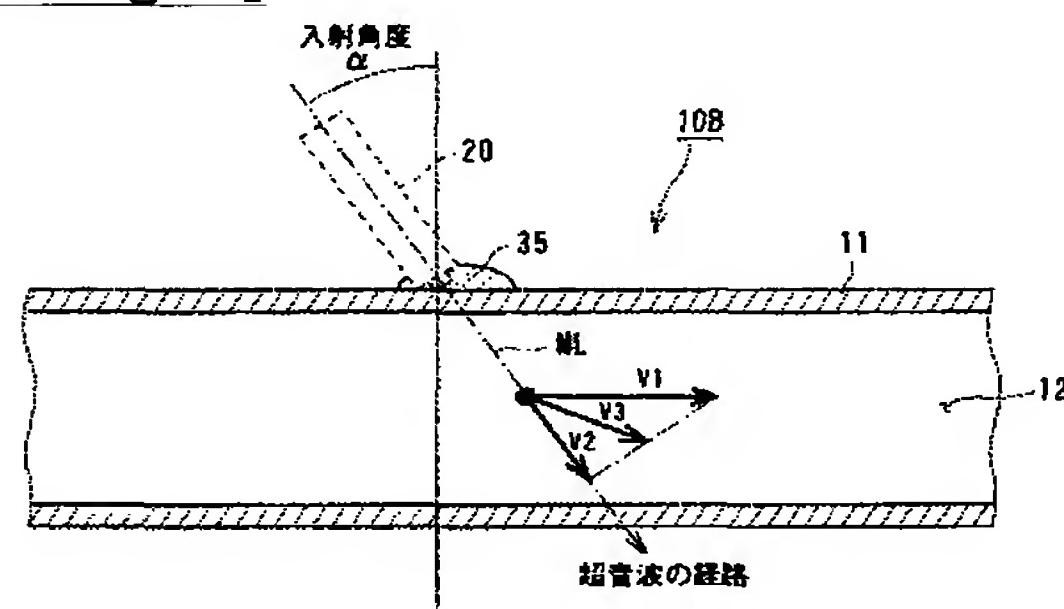
[Drawing 8]



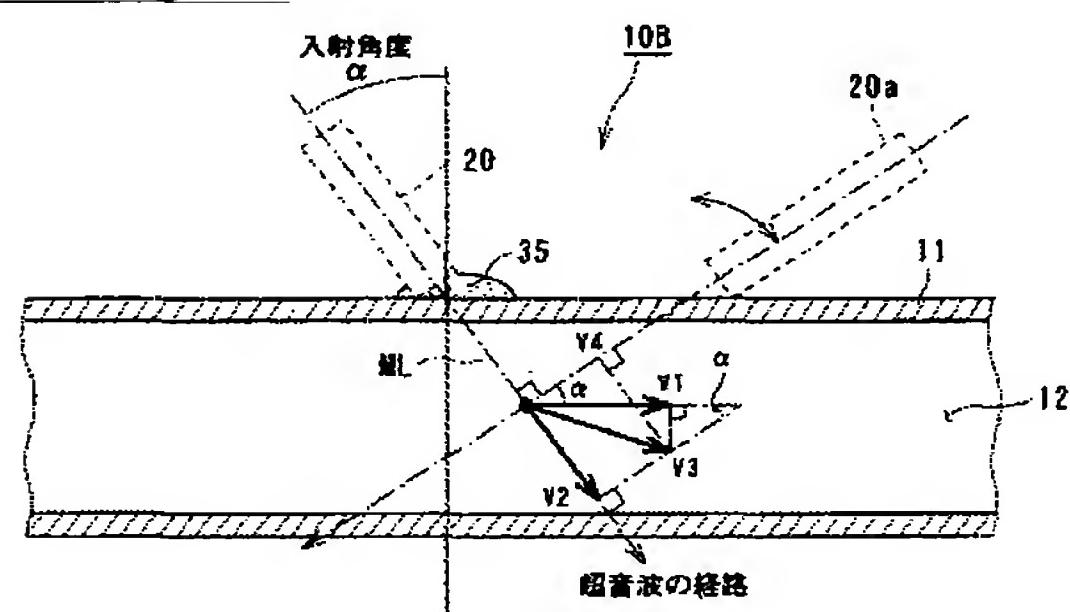
[Drawing 9]



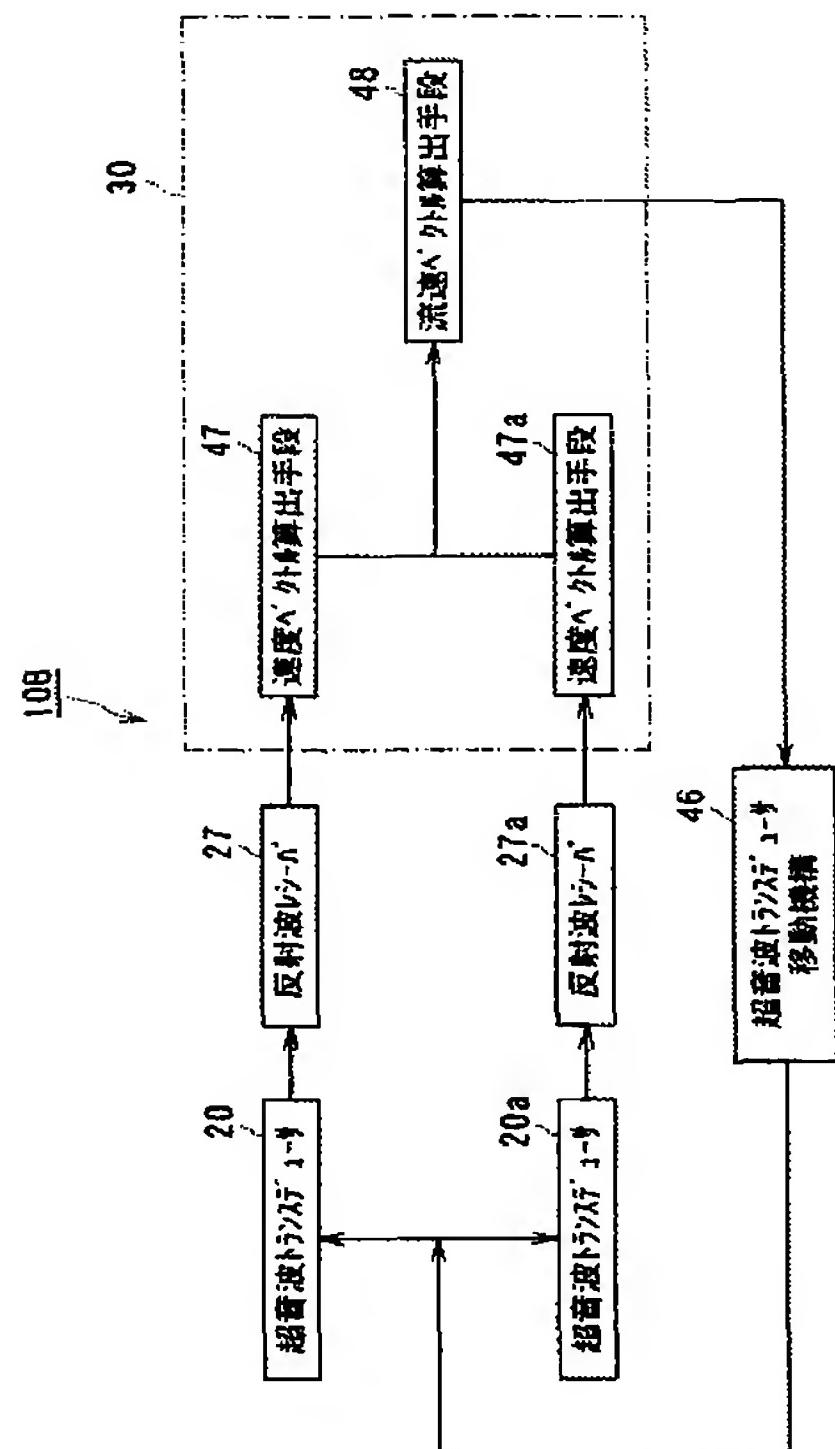
[Drawing 10]



[Drawing 11]



[Drawing 12]



[Translation done.]

(19) 日本国特許庁(JP)

## (12) 公開特許公報(A)

(11) 特許出願公開番号

特開2004-12204

(P2004-12204A)

(43) 公開日 平成16年1月15日(2004.1.15)

(51) Int.Cl.<sup>7</sup>

G01F 1/66

F 1

G01F 1/66 103

テーマコード(参考)

2FO35

審査請求 有 請求項の数 10 O L (全 21 頁)

(21) 出願番号

特願2002-163648 (P2002-163648)

(22) 出願日

平成14年6月4日 (2002.6.4)

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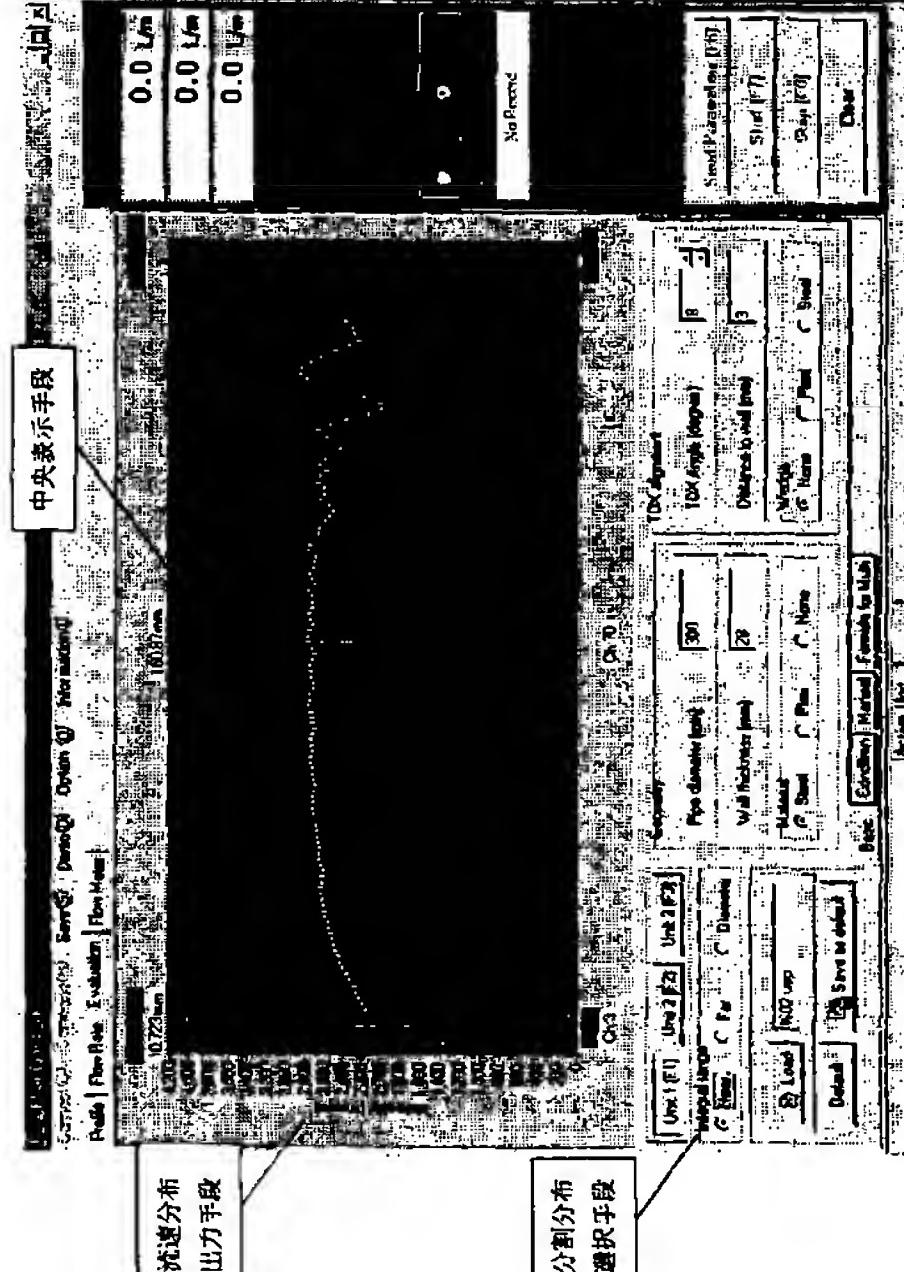
(54) 【発明の名称】 ドップラ式超音波流量計、ドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測方法および流量計測用プログラム

## (57) 【要約】

【目的】 流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計に関する技術を提供する。

【構成】 測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手段と、その流速分布出力手段が画面出力した流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を表示する中央表示手段と、その中央表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手段とを備えた出力操作モニタを備える。そして、流量演算手段は、前記分割分布選択手段を用いて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとする。

【選択図】 図3



**【特許請求の範囲】****【請求項 1】**

所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、  
被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、  
前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計であって、  
測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手段と、  
その流速分布出力手段が画面出力した流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を表示する中央表示手段と、  
その中央表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手段とを備え、  
前記流量演算手段は、前記分割分布選択手段を用いて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとしたドップラ式超音波流量計。

**【請求項 2】**

所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、  
被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、  
前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計であって、  
測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する分割分布作成手段と、  
作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する自動選択手段とを備え、  
前記流量演算手段は、前記自動選択手段が選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとしたドップラ式超音波流量計。

**【請求項 3】**

超音波送信手段には、被測定流体が流れる流体配管の管壁に対して共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる基本周波数たる最適周波数を自動的に選択する周波数選択設定装置を備え、  
超音波送信手段の超音波トランスジューサは、前記最適周波数を発振することとした請求項1または請求項2記載のドップラ式超音波流量計。

**【請求項 4】**

超音波トランスジューサから被測定流体内へ入射される超音波パルスの入射角度を調整設定する入射角調整設定手段を備え、  
その入射角調整設定手段は、流体配管の管壁に対して超音波パルスが共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる入射角度となるように、超音波トランスジューサを流体配管に対して調整設定可能とした請求項1から請求項3のいずれかに記載のドップラ式超音波流量計。

**【請求項 5】**

超音波トランスジューサは、第一トランスジューサと、その第一トランスジューサとは流体配管の軸方向に離間させて設置される第二トランスジューサと、第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサとを相対的に移動させるトランスジューサ移動機構とを備え、  
前記トランスジューサ移動機構は、第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサとが発振する超音波パルスが流体配管内の測定領域にて直交するように移動させることとした請求項3または請求項4のいずれかに記載のドップラ式超音波流量計。

**【請求項 6】**

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第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサから発振された超音波パルスの流体配管内の測定領域から反射波である超音波エコーをそれぞれ受信する第一反射波レシーバおよび第二反射波レシーバと、

第一反射波レシーバおよび第二反射波レシーバにて受信された超音波エコーの強度から超音波測定線の方向の速度ベクトルをそれぞれ算出する速度ベクトル算出手段と、

その速度ベクトル算出手段にて算出されたそれぞれの速度ベクトルのベクトル和から被測定流体の流速ベクトルを算出する流速ベクトル算出手段とを備え、

流体速度分布測定手段は、前記流速ベクトルを用いて流速分布を測定し、

流量演算手段は、当該流速分布を用いて被測定流体の流量を演算することとした請求項 5 記載のドップラ式超音波流量計。 10

#### 【請求項 7】

所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測方法であって、

測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手順と、

その流速分布出力手順にて画面出力された流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を表示する中央表示手順と、 20

その中央表示手順による中央の表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手順とを備え、

前記流量演算手段は、前記分割分布選択手順を用いてユーザが選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとした流量計測方法。 30

#### 【請求項 8】

所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、

被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、 30

前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測方法であって、

測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する分割分布作成手順と、

作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する自動選択手順とを備え、

前記流量演算手段は、前記自動選択手順にて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとした流量計測方法。 40

#### 【請求項 9】

所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、

被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、

前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測プログラムであって、

、  
そのプログラムは、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手順と、

その流速分布出力手順にて画面出力された流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点 50

の中央を表示する中央表示手順と、

その中央表示手順による中央の表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手順とをコンピュータに実行させるとともに、

前記ドップラ式超音波流量計の流量演算手段に対して、前記分割分布選択手順を用いてユーザが選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測させることとした流量計測用プログラム。

#### 【請求項 10】

所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、  
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被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、

前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測プログラムであって、

そのプログラムは、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する分割分布作成手順と、

作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する自動選択手順とをコンピュータに実行させるとともに、

前記ドップラ式超音波流量計の流量演算手段に対して、前記自動選択手順にて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとした流量計測用プログラム。  
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#### 【発明の詳細な説明】

##### 【0001】

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、測定領域の流速分布から被測定流体の流量を時間依存で瞬時に測定することが可能なドップラ式超音波流量計およびそれに関連する技術に関する。

##### 【0002】

##### 【先行技術】

特開2000-97742号では、非定常状態の流れであっても時間依存で正確に精度高く非接触で測定可能なドップラ式超音波流量計が開示されている。  
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ここで開示されるドップラ式超音波流量計は、以下のよう構成をなす。すなわち、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って被測定流体中に入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、上記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、積分演算を行う流量演算手段とを備えたものである。そして、流量演算手段は測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて流量を計測する。

##### 【0003】

このドップラ式超音波流量計は、配管内を流れる被測定流体の流速分布を測定し、時間的に変動する過渡時の流量を応答性に優れている。また、流体の流れが充分に発達していない箇所や流れが三次元になっている場所、例えばエルボ配管やU字状の反転配管のように曲げられた配管の直後でも、被測定流体の流量を効率的に精度よく瞬時に測定できる。それ以前に提供されていた超音波流量計と比較した場合、実験値や経験値などから割り出された「流量補正係数」がなくても正確な測定が可能であるという特徴があり、大きく評価されている。  
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##### 【0004】

##### 【発明が解決しようとする課題】

さて、上述のドップラ式超音波流量計は、被測定流体内に含まれている気泡や固形物に反射された超音波エコーの存在を前提としている。このため、被測定流体の流れが極めて不  
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安定である場合、気泡の密度差などが原因となって、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合がある。流量分布にばらつきが生じた場合には、流量の演算にも影響する。

#### 【0005】

本発明が解決しようとする課題は、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計に関する技術を提供することである。

請求項1から請求項6記載の発明の目的は、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計を提供することにある。

また、請求項7および請求項8記載の発明の目的は、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計による測定方法を提供することにある。

また、請求項9および請求項10記載の発明の目的は、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計による流量測定用プログラムを提供することにある。

#### 【0006】

##### 【課題を解決するための手段】

上記した課題を解決するため、本願では以下の発明を開示する。

#### 【0007】

##### (請求項1)

請求項1記載の発明は、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計に係る。すなわち、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手段と、その流速分布出力手段が画面出力した流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を表示する中央表示手段と、その中央表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手段とを備え、前記流量演算手段は、前記分割分布選択手段を用いて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとしたドップラ式超音波流量計である。

#### 【0008】

##### (用語説明)

「流量演算手段」は、流量を  $m(t)$  とするとき、

##### 【数1】

$$m(t) = \rho \int v(x \cdot t) \cdot dA \quad \dots \dots (1)$$

但し、 $\rho$  : 被測定流量の密度

$v(x \cdot t)$  : 時間  $t$  における速度成分 ( $x$  方向)

の演算を行う手段である。

また、上記の式(1)から、流体配管を流れる時間  $t$  の流量  $m(t)$  は、次式に書き換えることができる。

##### 【数2】

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$$m(t) = \rho \int \int v x(r \cdot \theta \cdot t) \cdot r \cdot dr \cdot d\theta \quad \dots\dots(2)$$

但し、 $v x (r \cdot \theta \cdot t)$  : 時間  $t$  における配管横断面上の中心から距離  $r$  ,  
角度  $\theta$  の管軸方向の速度成分

#### 【0009】

(作用)

まず、超音波送信手段が、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランシューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる。被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスは、被測定流体中を流れる気泡や固形物などにぶつかると反射する。反射した超音波パルスのうち、測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、ドップラー効果を利用して流体速度分布測定手段が測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する。10

続いて、流速分布出力手段が測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる。その流速分布出力手段が画面出力した流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を中心表示手段が表示する。そして、分割分布選択手段が、中央表示手段による中央の表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布を、ユーザが選択可能とする。流量演算手段は、前記分割分布選択手段を用いて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測する。20

以上のようなドップラ式超音波流量計によれば、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、流速分布を分割してよりよい分割分布をユーザが選択し、その選択した半分の流速分布を用いて二倍するという演算を行わせるため、より精密な流量測定を可能となる。

#### 【0010】

(請求項2)

請求項2記載の発明は、請求項1に係る発明がユーザに委ねていた分割分布の選択を、自動的に選択するという点が異なる。

すなわち、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する分割分布作成手段と、作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する自動選択手段とを備え、前記流量演算手段は、前記自動選択手段が選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとしたドップラ式超音波流量計に係る。30

#### 【0011】

(用語説明)

「自動選択手段」は、例えば、被測定流体における測定点の連続性が配管内壁まで保たれている分割分布を選択する、または測定点をスプライン処理などの技術を用いて円滑化して蛇行幅の小さい分割分布を選択する、といったアルゴリズムを含む。40

#### 【0012】

分割分布作成手段が、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する。そして、自動選択手段が、作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する。流量演算手段は、自動選択手段が選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測する。

以上のようなドップラ式超音波流量計によれば、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、流速分布を分割してよりよい分割分布を自動的に選択し、その選択した半分の流速分布を用いて二倍するという演算を行わせるため、より精密な流量測定を可能となる。50

## 【0013】

(請求項3)

請求項3記載の発明は、請求項1または請求項2記載のドップラ式超音波流量計を限定したものである。すなわち、超音波送信手段には、被測定流体が流れる流体配管の管壁に対して共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる基本周波数たる最適周波数を自動的に選択する周波数選択設定装置を備え、超音波送信手段の超音波トランスジューサは、前記最適周波数を発振することとしたドップラ式超音波流量計に係る。

## 【0014】

(第一のバリエーション)

「周波数選択設定装置」は、最適周波数を例えば以下のようにして選択する。すなわち、設定する超音波パルスの半波長の整数倍と被測定流体が流れる流体配管の管厚とが等しくなる周波数を最適周波数として自動的に選択する。流体配管の壁厚が超音波の基本周波数の半波長を整数倍したときに、超音波の透過特性が非常に高いことを知見したことに基づいている。

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## 【0015】

(第二のバリエーション)

また、「周波数選択設定装置」には、超音波トランスジューサから所要の発振周波数の超音波を発振させる発振用アンプと、その発振用アンプの発振周波数を調節する発振周波数可変装置と、その発振周波数可変装置を予め指定された周波数領域内で動作させる周波数領域設定手段と、前記超音波トランスジューサから発振された超音波パルスのうち、流体配管内の測定領域から反射される超音波エコーを受信する超音波受信手段と、受信した超音波エコーの強度を抽出して記憶する反射波強度抽出手段とを備えることも可能である。それら手段を備えたドップラ式超音波流量計の場合、最適な測定を行う準備にかかる手間を軽減したり、改善改良または最適化のためのデータを蓄積できるという利点がある。

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## 【0016】

(作用)

周波数選択設定装置は、被測定流体が流れる流体配管の管壁に対して共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる基本周波数たる最適周波数を自動的に選択する。超音波送信手段の超音波トランスジューサは、自動的に選択された最適周波数を発振する。自動的に最適周波数が選択されるので、ユーザにとって使いやすいドップラ式超音波流量計となる。

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## 【0017】

(請求項4)

請求項4記載の発明は、請求項1から請求項3のいずれかに記載のドップラ式超音波流量計を限定したものである。

すなわち、超音波トランスジューサから被測定流体内へ入射される超音波パルスの入射角度を調整設定する入射角調整設定手段を備え、その入射角調整設定手段は、流体配管の管壁に対して超音波パルスが共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる入射角度となるように、超音波トランスジューサを流体配管に対して調整設定可能としたドップラ式超音波流量計に係る。

## 【0018】

(作用)

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入射角調整設定手段は、超音波トランスジューサから被測定流体内へ入射される超音波パルスの入射角度を調整設定する。その調整は、流体配管の管壁に対して超音波パルスが共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる入射角度となるように、超音波トランスジューサを流体配管に対して行う。これによって、透過しやすい超音波パルスが発振できることとなる。

## 【0019】

(請求項5)

請求項5記載の発明は、請求項3または請求項4のいずれかに記載のドップラ式超音波流量計を限定したものである。

すなわち、超音波トランスジューサは、第一トランスジューサと、その第一トランスジューサとは流体配管の軸方向に離間させて設置される第二トランスジューサと、第一トラン

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スジューサおよび第二トランスジューサとを相対的に移動させるトランスジューサ移動機構とを備え、前記トランスジューサ移動機構は、第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサとが発振する超音波パルスが流体配管内の測定領域にて直交するように移動させることとしたドップラ式超音波流量計に係る。

#### 【0020】

##### (作用)

第一トランスジューサと、それとは流体配管の軸方向に離間させて第二トランスジューサとが設置される。トランスジューサ移動機構は、第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサとが発振する超音波パルスが流体配管内の測定領域にて直交するように移動させることができ。そのため、二つのトランスジューサの最適位置へ設置し、最適な超音波パルスを発振できる。

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流体配管の軸方向に離間させ、発振パルスが直交するように位置した二つのトランスジューサによれば、流体配管の軸方向に平行でない流れが存在していても、より正確な速度分布を算出することができる。

#### 【0021】

##### (請求項 6)

請求項 6 記載の発明は、請求項 5 記載のドップラ式超音波流量計を限定したものである。すなわち、第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサから発振された超音波パルスの流体配管内の測定領域から反射波である超音波エコーをそれぞれ受信する第一反射波レシーバおよび第二反射波レシーバと、第一反射波レシーバおよび第二反射波レシーバにて受信された超音波エコーの強度から超音波測定線の方向の速度ベクトルをそれぞれ算出する速度ベクトル算出手段と、その速度ベクトル算出手段にて算出されたそれぞれの速度ベクトルのベクトル和から被測定流体の流速ベクトルを算出する流速ベクトル算出手段とを備え、流体速度分布測定手段は、前記流速ベクトルを用いて流速分布を測定し、流量演算手段は、当該流速分布を用いて被測定流体の流量を演算することとしたドップラ式超音波流量計に係る。

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換言すれば、請求項 5 記載のドップラ式超音波流量計の構成要件に加え、第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサとが発振する超音波パルスによる超音波エコーから、より正確な速度分布や流量を算出するために、一旦流速ベクトルを算出する流速ベクトル算出手段などを備えているのである。

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#### 【0022】

##### (作用)

第一反射波レシーバおよび第二反射波レシーバは、第一トランスジューサおよび第二トランスジューサから発振された超音波パルスの流体配管内の測定領域から反射波である超音波エコーをそれぞれ受信する。続いて、速度ベクトル算出手段が、第一反射波レシーバおよび第二反射波レシーバにて受信された超音波エコーの強度から超音波測定線の方向の速度ベクトルをそれぞれ算出する。そして、算出されたそれぞれの速度ベクトルのベクトル和から、流速ベクトル算出手段が被測定流体の流速ベクトルを算出する。

流体速度分布測定手段は、前記流速ベクトルを用いて流速分布を測定し、流量演算手段は、当該流速分布を用いて被測定流体の流量を演算する。

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#### 【0023】

(請求項 7) 請求項 7 記載の発明は、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測方法である。

すなわち、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手順と、その流速分布出力手順にて画面出力された流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を表示する中央表示手順と、その中央表示手順による中央の表示を境界として二

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分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手順とを備え、前記流量演算手段は、前記分割分布選択手順を用いてユーザが選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとした流量計測方法である。

【0024】

(請求項8)

請求項8記載の発明もまた、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測方法に係る。

すなわち、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する分割分布作成手順と、作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する自動選択手順とを備え、前記流量演算手段は、前記自動選択手順にて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとした流量計測方法である。

【0025】

(請求項9)

請求項9記載の発明は、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測用プログラムに係る。

そのプログラムは、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手順と、その流速分布出力手順にて画面出力された流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を表示する中央表示手順と、その中央表示手順による中央の表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手順とをコンピュータに実行させるとともに、前記ドップラ式超音波流量計の流量演算手段に対して、前記分割分布選択手順を用いてユーザが選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測させることとした流量計測用プログラムである。

【0026】

(請求項10)

請求項10記載の発明もまた、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を用いた流量計測用プログラムに係る。

そのプログラムは、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する分割分布作成手順と、作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する自動選択手順とをコンピュータに実行させるとともに、前記ドップラ式超音波流量計の流量演算手段に対して、前記自動選択手順にて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測することとした流量計測用プログラムである。

【0027】

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請求項 9 および請求項 10 に係るコンピュータプログラムを、記録媒体へ記憶させて提供することもできる。ここで、「記録媒体」とは、それ自身では空間を占有し得ないプログラムを担持することができる媒体であり、例えば、フレキシブルディスク、ハードディスク、CD-ROM、MO（光磁気ディスク）、DVD-ROM、PD などである。

また、これらの発明に係るプログラムを格納したコンピュータから、通信回線を通じて他のコンピュータへ传送することも可能である。

なお、汎用的なコンピュータを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計に対して、上記のような各手段を達成可能であるようなプログラムをプリインストール、あるいはダウンロードすることで、請求項 1 等に係る機能を備えたドップラ式超音波流量計を形成することも可能である。

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### 【0028】

#### 【発明の実施の形態】

本発明に係るドップラ式超音波流量計の実施の形態について、添付図面を参照させながら説明する。ここで使用する図面は、図 1 ないし図 12 である。図 1 および図 2 は、本願発明に係る実施形態の構成を示す概念図である。図 3 および図 4 は、本願発明の中核をなす構成の具体的な画面出力を示す図である。図 5 から図 12 は、具体的なハードウェア構成、測定原理、実験例などを説明するための図である。

### 【0029】

#### (図 1)

図 1 には、本実施形態に係るドップラ式超音波流量計、そのドップラ式超音波流量計を用いて流量を計測する被測定流体が流れる流体配管、ドップラ式超音波流量計に付属した出力モニタと操作装置、およびドップラ式超音波流量計を使用するユーザを図示している。ドップラ式超音波流量計は、所要周波数の超音波パルスを超音波トランスジューサから測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる超音波送信手段と、被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスのうち測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する流体速度分布測定手段と、前記被測定流体の流速分布に基づいて、前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を演算する流量演算手段とを備えたドップラ式超音波流量計である。なお、流量演算手段における演算手法は、式(1)、式(2)にて示しているので、省略する。

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出力モニタおよび操作装置は、以下のような構成をなしている。すなわち、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる流速分布出力手段と、その流速分布出力手段が画面出力した流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を表示する中央表示手段と、その中央表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布をユーザが選択可能とする分割分布選択手段とを備えている。

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### 【0030】

以下、ドップラ式超音波流量計の作動について、図 1 に基づいて説明する。

まず、超音波送信手段における超音波トランスジューサが、所要周波数の超音波パルスを測定線に沿って流体配管内の被測定流体中へ入射させる。被測定流体に入射された超音波パルスは、被測定流体中を流れる気泡や固形物などにぶつかると反射する。反射した超音波パルスのうち、測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、ドッパー効果を利用して流体速度分布測定手段が測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を測定する。

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続いて、流速分布出力手段が測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布を画面出力させる。その流速分布出力手段が画面出力した流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央を中央表示手段が表示する。そして、分割分布選択手段が、中央表示手段による中央の表示を境界として二分割されて出力される流速分布における一方の分割分布を、ユーザが選択可能とする。流量演算手段は、前記分割分布選択手段を用いて選択された一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測する。

### 【0031】

#### (図 3 および図 4)

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図3および図4は、図1中の「出力モニタ&操作装置」を具体的に示したものであり、コンピュータのモニタへ出力された画面である。

図3の画面中央には、「流速分布出力手段」が位置する。すなわち、縦軸を流速、横軸を管径として、測定点をプロットしたグラフを出力している。この出力例では、管径313.26ミリメートルの流体配管を対象としており、「中央表示手段」が160.87ミリメートルを境とするよう、表示している。

画面の左下には、「分割表示手段」が用意されている。これは、「Near」または「Far」のいずれか、または「diameter」をユーザに選択させるためのものである。「Near」とは、超音波トランスジューサから近い位置、すなわち画面では中央表示手段よりも左側のことである。また「Far」とは、超音波トランスジューサから遠い位置、すなわち画面では中央表示手段よりも右側のことである。「Near」または「Far」のいずれかを選択した場合には、選択された一方の分割分布を用いて積分演算し、それを二倍することによって被測定流体の流量を計測する。

この図3では、ユーザは「Near」を選択している。「Far」に比べて流速分布が整っているからである。

#### 【0032】

図4では、管径308.93ミリメートルの流体配管を対象としており、「中央表示手段」が156.46ミリメートルを境とするよう、表示している。そして、ここではユーザは、「Far」を選択している。

なお、ユーザが「diameter」を選択した場合には、「Near」および「Far」の両方の分割分布を用いて積分演算する。

#### 【0033】

##### (図2)

続いて、図2に示す実施形態について説明する。

図2に示す実施形態は、ユーザに対して選択させず、自動的に選択することとしている。そのため、ユーザに対して選択のための出力が必要ないため、「出力モニタ&操作装置」の代わりに「流速分布分割装置」を備えている。

この流速分布分割装置は、図示するように、測定領域における被測定流体の流速分布に対して、被測定流体における測定点の中央にて二分割して二つの分割分布を作成する分割分布作成手段と、作成した二つの分割分布を比較してばらつきの小さな分割分布を自動選択する自動選択手段とを備えている。そして、ドップラ式超音波流量計の流量演算手段は、前記自動選択手段が選択した一方の分割分布を用いて演算し、二倍することによって前記測定領域における被測定流体の流量を計測する。流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、流速分布を分割してよりよい分割分布を自動的に選択し、その選択した半分の流速分布を用いて二倍するという演算を行わせるため、より精密な流量測定となる。

#### 【0034】

なお、図1に示す実施形態と組み合せ、ユーザによる選択と自動選択との二種類を用意したドップラ式超音波流量計を提供することも可能である。そのような実施形態の場合、ユーザが選択しない場合には、よりよい分割分布を自動的に選択する、といったメニューを用意しておくことができる。

#### 【0035】

以下、ドップラ式超音波流量計について、図5から図12を用いて詳細に説明する。

図5に示すドップラ式超音波流量計10は、流体配管11内を流れる被測定流体12（液体や気体）の流速分布を測定し、流量を時間依存で瞬時に測定できるものであり、配管11内を流れる被測定流体12の流速を非接触で測定する超音波速度分布計測ユニット（以下、Udfowユニットという。）13を備える。Udfowユニット13は、被測定流体12に測定線MLに沿って所要周波数（基本周波数 $f_0$ ）の超音波パルスを送信させる超音波送信手段15と、被測定流体12に入射された超音波パルスの測定領域から反射された超音波エコーを受信し、測定領域における被測定流体12の流速分布を測定する

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流体速度分布測定手段16と、被測定流体12の流速分布に基づいて演算処理して半径方向の積分を行ない、被測定流体12の流量を時間依存で求める流量演算手段としてのマイコン、CPU、MPU等のコンピュータ17と、このコンピュータ17からの出力を時系列的に表示可能な表示装置18と、流体配管11内を流れる被測定流体12の最適周波数である超音波を自動的に選定する周波数選択設定手段19とを有する。

#### 【0036】

超音波送信手段15は、所要周波数の超音波パルスを発振させる超音波トランスジューサ20と、この超音波トランスジューサ20を加振させる信号発生器としての加振用アンプ21とを有する。加振用アンプ21は、所要の基本周波数 $f_0$ の電気信号を発生させる発振器（オシレータ）23と、この発振器23からの電気信号を所定の時間間隔（ $1/F_{r_p,f}$ ）ごとにパルス状に出力するエミッタ24（周波数 $F_{r_p,f}$ ）とを備えている。そして、この信号発生器である加振用アンプ21から所要の基本周波数 $f_0$ のパルス電気信号が超音波トランスジューサ20へ入力される。10

#### 【0037】

超音波トランスジューサ20は、パルス電気信号の印加により基本周波数 $f_0$ の超音波パルスが測定線MLに沿って発振せしめられる。超音波パルスは、例えばパルス幅5mm程度で拡がりをほとんど持たない直進性のビームである。

超音波トランスジューサ20は送受信器を兼ねており、超音波トランスジューサ20は発振された超音波パルスが流体中の反射体に当って反射される超音波エコーを受信するようになっている。ここで反射体とは、被測定流体12中に一様に含まれる気泡であったり、アルミニウムの微粉末等のパーティクルであったり、または被測定流体12とは音響インピーダンスが異なる異物である。20

#### 【0038】

超音波トランスジューサ20に受信された超音波エコーは、反射波レシーバー27にて受信され、その反射波レシーバー27にてエコー電気信号へ変換される。このエコー電気信号は、増幅器28で増幅された後、AD変換器29を通じてデジタル化される。そして、デジタル化されたデジタルエコー信号が流速分布計測回路26に入力される。

流速分布計測回路30には、発振用アンプ21からの基本周波数 $f_0$ の電気信号がデジタル化されて入力され、両信号の周波数差からドップラシフトに基づく流速の変化を計測し、測定線MLに沿う測定領域の流速分布を算出している。測定領域の流速分布を傾斜角 $\alpha$ で較正することによって、流体配管11の横断面における流速分布を計測することができる。30

#### 【0039】

さて、本願発明に先立って、流体配管11が金属製である場合のその壁厚が超音波の基本周波数 $f_0$ の $1/2$ あるいはその整数倍である場合に、超音波の透過特性が非常に高いことが知見された。そこで、この知見に基づき、超音波トランスジューサ20から発振される超音波パルスの基本周波数 $f_0$ は、流体配管11の壁厚に対して共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる最適値が自由且つ自動的に選択されるように、周波数選択設定手段19を構成している。

この周波数選択設定手段19は、前述した加振用アンプ21と、その加振用アンプ21の発振周波数を変動させて調整設定可能とする発振周波数可変装置31と、この発振周波数可変装置31に予めユーザが指定した範囲内（例えば、200kHz～4MHzの周波数領域内）で発振周波数可変装置31を動作させる基本周波数領域設定手段32と、流体配管11内の測定領域から反射される超音波エコーを受信する反射波レシーバ27と、受信した超音波エコー信号を増幅および攪拌する増幅器28と、その増幅器28で攪拌された超音波エコー信号の強度を抽出して記憶する反射波強度抽出手段33と、この反射波強度抽出手段33にて抽出されて記憶された反射強度（超音波エコー強度）を表示させる反射波強度表示機能を備えた表示装置18とを備える。40

#### 【0040】

このように構成された周波数選択設定手段19は、反射波強度抽出手段33、発振周波数50

可変装置 31などの協働作用により、流体配管 11の壁厚に対して共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる最適周波数を設定する。設定された最適周波数は、発振周波数可変装置 31からの出力信号によって発振アンプの発振周波数を決定して超音波トランスジューサ 20を加振する。そして、最適周波数である基本周波数  $f_0$  の超音波パルスが超音波トランスジューサ 20から流体配管 11内へ発振される。

最適周波数の超音波パルスが超音波トランスジューサ 20から発振されるので、充分な反射波 S/N 比を確保することができ、反射波である超音波エコー信号を大きく取ることができます。すなわち、共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる超音波パルスが発振されるので、流体配管 11の透過率が非常に高く、充分な反射波強度を得ることができます。

#### 【0041】

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なお、超音波トランスジューサ 20から発振される超音波を流体配管 11内へスマーズに発振させるため、超音波トランスジューサ 20と流体配管 11との間には、ゼリー状の接触媒体 35を介在させる。

また、反射波を反射波レシーバ 27にて受けるとして前述したが、超音波トランスジューサ 20に受信機能を内蔵させて代用させることも可能である。

#### 【0042】

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次に、図 6 を参照させながら、ドップラ式超音波流量計 10 の作動原理を説明する。

図 6 (A) に示すように、超音波トランスジューサ 20 を配管 11 の放射方向に対し角度  $\alpha$  だけ被測定体の流れ方向に傾けて設置した状態で、超音波トランスジューサ 20 から所要周波数  $f_0$  の超音波パルスを入射させると、この超音波パルスは測定線 ML 上の被測定流体 12 に一様に分布する反射体に当って反射し、図 6 (B) に示すように、超音波エコー a となって超音波トランスジューサ 20 に戻される。

ここで、図 6 (B) における符号 b は、超音波パルス入射側の管壁で反射する多重反射エコーである。また符号 c は、反対側管壁で反射する多重反射エコーである。超音波トランスジューサ 20 から発振される超音波パルスの発振間隔は  $1/F_{r,p,f}$  である。

超音波トランスジューサ 20 で受信したエコー信号をフィルタリング処理し、ドップラシフト法を利用して測定線 ML に沿って流速分布を計測すると、図 6 (C) のように表示される。この流速分布は、Udflow ユニット 13 の流体速度分布測定手段 16 で測定することができる。

#### 【0043】

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ここで「ドップラシフト法」とは、配管 11 内を流れる流体 12 中に超音波パルスを放射すると、流体 12 中に混在あるいは一様分布の反射体（例えば気泡）によって反射されて超音波エコーとなり、この超音波エコーの周波数が流速に比例した大きさだけ周波数シフトする原理を応用し、流速を測定する方法である。超音波流体速度分布測定手段 16 で測定された被測定流体 12 の流速分布信号は、流量演算手段としてのコンピュータ 17 に送られ、ここで流速分布信号を配管 11 の半径方向に積分し、被測定流体 12 の流量を時間依存で求めることができる。その流量計算の式については、前述した式 (1), 式 (2) であるので、繰り返しての説明は省略する。

#### 【0044】

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なお、式 (2) により、本実施形態によるドップラ式超音波流量計 10 は、被測定流体 12 の流れの空間分布を瞬時、例えば  $50 \text{ m sec} \sim 100 \text{ m sec}$  程度の応答速度にて得ることができる。被測定流体 12 は配管（円管）11内の流れであっても、充分な助走区間をとれない場合や、弁の開閉やポンプの起動・停止などで時間的な揺らぎが存在する場合には、流体の流れは非定常状態で三次元分布をもっているが、このドップラ式超音波流量計 10 は、測定領域の流速分布を時間依存で瞬時に求めることができるので、被測定流体 12 の流量を定常状態、非定常状態如何を問わず、正確に精度よく求めることができる。

#### 【0045】

（透過特性の確認実験）

本実施形態によるドップラ式超音波流量計 10 を用いて、超音波トランスジューサ 20 か

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ら発振される超音波の透過特性の確認実験を行った。

このドップラ式超音波流量計10は、周波数選択設定手段19によって超音波トランジューサ20から発振される超音波の基本周波数を、200kHzから数MHz（例えば、2MHz）まで、5kHz刻みに自動的に調整設定できるものである。

超音波の壁面透過試験は、250mm径のアクリル配管の一部にステンレス鋼を埋め込み、このステンレス鋼の壁外部へ超音波トランジューサ20を設置する。そして、基本周波数を変化させながら超音波を入射し、アクリル配管の対抗側壁面からの超音波の反射強度を調べた。

#### 【0046】

(図7)

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超音波の壁面透過実験では、ステンレス鋼の壁厚が9.5ミリメートル、11.5ミリメートル、13.0ミリメートルの三種類を用意した。また、超音波トランジューサ20から発振される超音波の基本周波数は、0.25kHz、0.5kHzおよび1MHzの三種類とした。図7は、9.5ミリメートルのステンレス鋼による超音波の壁面透過実験の例を示している。横軸は超音波の基本周波数 $f_0$ であり、縦軸は対抗壁からの超音波の反射強度である。図7中、反射波の透過強度曲線を、0.25kHzがh、0.5kHzがi、1MHzがjにて示している。

さて、図7における上向き矢印l, m, nは、超音波の発振周波数の波長と、ステンレス鋼の壁厚との関係を示すものである。すなわち、波長の低い方からステンレス鋼の壁厚の1/2倍、等倍、3/2倍の周波数位置を示している。

図7からは、例えば1MHzの超音波を選択して超音波トランジューサ20を使用する場合、ステンレス鋼の配管壁厚に合わせて、基本周波数を約910kHzに設定すると、超音波の透過特性が良好であることが把握できる。周波数の透過強度曲線jは、矢印nの位置で反射波の透過強度が高いことが把握できる。

#### 【0047】

(図8)

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壁厚9.5ミリメートル、内径150ミリメートルの炭素鋼による流体配管を用意し、1MHzの超音波を選択して超音波トランジューサ20を使用し、周波数選択設定装置19によって超音波トランジューサ20から発振される基本周波数 $f_0$ が910kHzとなるように設定し、被測定流体の流速分布を測定した。図8は、その測定実験で得られた被測定流体の時間平均流速分布の結果を示したものである。

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被測定流体の流速分布の計測点は、流体配管における管中心部から手前側(0~60ミリメートルの範囲)では、壁内部における超音波の反射のために、充分な流速分布を得るのが困難であったため、被測定流体12の流速分布に対して壁面の影響が表れにくかった、60~150ミリメートルの範囲とした。そして、比較的スムーズな平均流速分布曲線(図中○)を得た。

この平均流速分布曲線○から、平均流速分布を流体配管11内で積分することによって、流体配管11内を流れる被測定流体12の流量を精度よく、被接触状態にて測定することができる。

#### 【0048】

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ところで、この測定において、0~150ミリメートルの全体について流速分布を一旦取得してモニタ出力させるとともに、中央たる75ミリメートルに「中央」の表示を行い、その中央にて分割された二つの測定結果において、比較的円滑、または充分な流速分布を得た側をユーザが選択する、という手法が、図1等を用いて前述した手法である。更に、中央にて分割された二つの測定結果のうち、良好な一方を自動的に選択することとすれば、図2を用いて前述した手法となる。

#### 【0049】

(図9)

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図9は、図5に示したドップラ式超音波流量計のバリエーションであり、ドップラ式超音波流量計10Aと記す。

流体配管 1 1 内に入射する超音波パルスの最適周波数を選定する代わりに、反射波の S / N 比を向上させる方法として、理論的には流体配管 1 1 の壁厚を変化させて共鳴的透過現象を生じさせる、という方法が考えられる。しかし現実的には、流体配管 1 1 の壁厚を変化させる方法は不可能である。そこで、流体配管 1 1 の壁厚を変化させるのと均等な手段として、流体配管 1 1 に対する超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 の取り付け角度を変化させる機構を備えたものである。すなわち、超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 の入射角度  $\alpha$  を調整設定し、流体配管 1 1 の壁厚に適合する超音波の入射角度を自動的に選定できる入射角調整設定手段 4 0 を備え、ドップラ式超音波流量計 1 0 にて備えられていた周波数選定設定手段 1 9 を省略している。ここで、超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 から発振される超音波の入射角度  $\alpha$  は、流体配管 1 1 の管表面の垂直線あるいは垂直面との間に形成される角度である。

#### 【0050】

入射角調整設定手段 4 0 は、流体配管 1 1 に対して外側から取り付け角度を調節自在とした超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 と、この超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 から発振される超音波パルスの入射角度  $\alpha$  を調整設定可能な入射角変換機構 4 1 と、予め指定された入射角の範囲（例えば、5 ~ 45 度）内で、入射角変換機構 4 1 を動作させる入射角領域設定手段 4 3 と、反射される超音波エコーを受信してその強度を抽出して記憶する反射波強度抽出手段 4 4 とを備えている。その反射波強度抽出手段 4 4 で抽出、記憶された超音波エコー強度は、反射波強度表示機能を備えた表示装置 1 8 にて表示する。

#### 【0051】

この入射角調整設定手段 4 0 は、入射角変換機構 4 1 によって流体配管 1 1 に対する超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 の取り付け角度を変化させ、超音波の入射角度  $\alpha$  を約 5 ~ 45 度の範囲で変化させることができる。具体的には、図 9 にて図示するように、入射角変換機構 4 1 から出力される出力信号によってステッピングモータ 4 6 を駆動させ、そのステッピングモータ 4 6 によって取付角度調整機構を駆動することによって達成する。

#### 【0052】

超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 から発振される超音波パルスの入射角度  $\alpha$  は、流体配管 1 1 の壁厚に対して共鳴的透過現象を生じる最適な角度として、入射角調整設定手段 4 0 にて設定される。超音波パルスの周波数を変えることなく、壁厚を物理的に変化させて共鳴的透過現象が生じるようにしていることと同じである。共鳴的透過現象が生じる超音波パルスが入射され、十分な反射波 S / N 比を確保できるので、超音波エコーが反射し、被測定流体 1 2 の流速分布および流量を正確に精度よく測定できる。

#### 【0053】

なお、前述した入射角調整設定手段 4 0 の機能、すなわち、超音波の入射角度を変化させることができる機能を内蔵した超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 を製作して採用することも、当然可能である。

ところで、前述した入射角調整設定手段 4 0 は、同じく前述した周波数選定設定手段 1 9 の代わりに設けるとして説明したが、両手段 4 0, 1 9 を組み合わせて備えることも、当然可能である。その場合、最適入射角度および最適周波数を自動的に選択し、設定することとなる。例えば、流速が非常に速い場合において入射角度が大きいと超音波エコーを受信しにくくなるおそれがある。そのような場合には、入射角度を小さく設定し、最適周波数の調整を優先するのである。

#### 【0054】

図 5 から図 9 において示したドップラ式超音波流量計 1 0, 1 0 A は、測定線 M L に依存した測定方法であるから、測定線 M L の数を増やすことが面測定に近付け、測定精度を向上させることに直結する。そこで、N 個の超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 を流体配管 1 1 の周方向に、所定間隔毎に設置する。また、全ての超音波トランスジューサ 2 0 の測定線 M L を、管壁への垂線に対し角度  $\alpha$  傾斜させるとともに、流体配管 1 1 の軸線と交差するように設置するのが望ましい。

#### 【0055】

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さて、配管 1 1 内を流れる被測定流体 1 2 の流れが、管軸方向の流れで半径方向や角度  $\theta$  の流れ  $v_r$ ,  $v_\theta$  を無視できるとすると、 $v_x \gg v_r = v_\theta$  となり、流量計測は簡素化され、次式で表わされる。

【数 3】

$$m(t) = \sum_i^N \cdot \frac{2\pi}{N} \int_{-R}^R \{vx(r \cdot \theta i \cdot t) / \sin \alpha\} \cdot r \cdot dr \quad \dots\dots(3)$$

このように、求められた被測定流体 1 2 の流量は、表示装置 1 8 により時間依存で瞬時に表示することができる。この表示装置 1 8 には、被測定流体 1 2 の配管 1 1 内の測定線 M 10 に沿う流速分布あるいは配管横断面における流速分布を表示することもできる。

【0 0 5 6】

図 1 0 から図 1 2 に示すドップラ式超音波流量計 1 0 B は、被測定流体 1 2 の流れが流体配管 1 1 に対して平行でない場合、例えば流体配管 1 1 内で旋回流が生じているような場合であっても、正確な流速、流量を算出することができるようとするためのものである。例えば、図 1 1 において示す速度ベクトル V 3 は、流体配管 1 1 に対して平行ではない。この速度ベクトル V 3 による流速を算出しようとしたとする。すなわち、この速度ベクトル V 3 に沿って流れている気泡に超音波が反射し、その超音波反射エコーを超音波トランジューサ 2 0 のみが受信したとする。すると、速度ベクトル V 3 は、流体配管 1 1 に対して平行な速度ベクトル V 1 として算出されてしまい、実際の流速よりも大きくなってしまう。

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【0 0 5 7】

そこで、超音波トランジューサは、これまでと同様に設置する超音波トランジューサ 2 0 と、その超音波トランジューサ 2 0 とは流体配管 1 1 の軸方向に離間させて設置される第二の超音波トランジューサ 2 0 a との組合せとするのである。超音波トランジューサ 2 0 および第二の超音波トランジューサ 2 0 a とは、それぞれの発振する超音波パルスが流体配管内の測定領域にて直交するような位置に設置することとしている。第二の超音波トランジューサ 2 0 a は、速度ベクトル V 2, V 4, V 5 を求めることができるので、速度ベクトル V 1 との関係から、本来の速度ベクトル V 3 を算出できる。

【0 0 5 8】

なお、図 1 2 において、この実施形態に係る超音波トランジューサの構成について説明している。すなわち、第一の超音波トランジューサ 2 0 および第二の超音波トランジューサ 2 0 a と、それらトランジューサ 2 0, 2 0 a を相対的に移動させるトランジューサ移動機構 4 6 とを備えている。そして、そのトランジューサ移動機構 4 6 は、第一トランジューサ 2 0 および第二トランジューサ 2 0 a とが発振する超音波パルスが流体配管内の測定領域にて直交するように移動させる構造を備えているのである。

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トランジューサ 2 0, 2 0 a には、それぞれ反射波レシーバ 2 7, 2 7 a と、速度ベクトル算出手段 4 7, 4 7 a とが備えられており、流速ベクトル算出手段 4 8 が速度ベクトル算出手段 4 7, 4 7 a に基づいて算出される速度ベクトルのベクトル和から、最終的な速度ベクトル V 3 を算出する。

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【0 0 5 9】

図 1 0 から図 1 2 に示すドップラ式超音波流量計 1 0 B によれば、被測定流体 1 2 の流れ方向が流体配管 1 1 に対して平行でない場合であっても、その流れ方向をベクトル演算し、正確な流速、流量を算出することができる。

なお、第一の超音波トランジューサ 2 0 および第二の超音波トランジューサ 2 0 a を一組としたこのドップラ式超音波流量計 1 0 B を、流体配管 1 1 の管周方向に複数位置させて組み合わせれば、より正確な流速、流量を算出することができる。

【0 0 6 0】

【発明の効果】

請求項 1 から請求項 6 記載の発明によれば、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計を提供することがで

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きた。

また、請求項7および請求項8記載の発明によれば、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計による測定方法を提供することができた。

また、請求項9および請求項10記載の発明によれば、流速分布の測定値にばらつきが生じる場合であっても、より精密な流量測定を可能とするドップラ式超音波流量計による流量測定用プログラムを提供することができた。

【図面の簡単な説明】

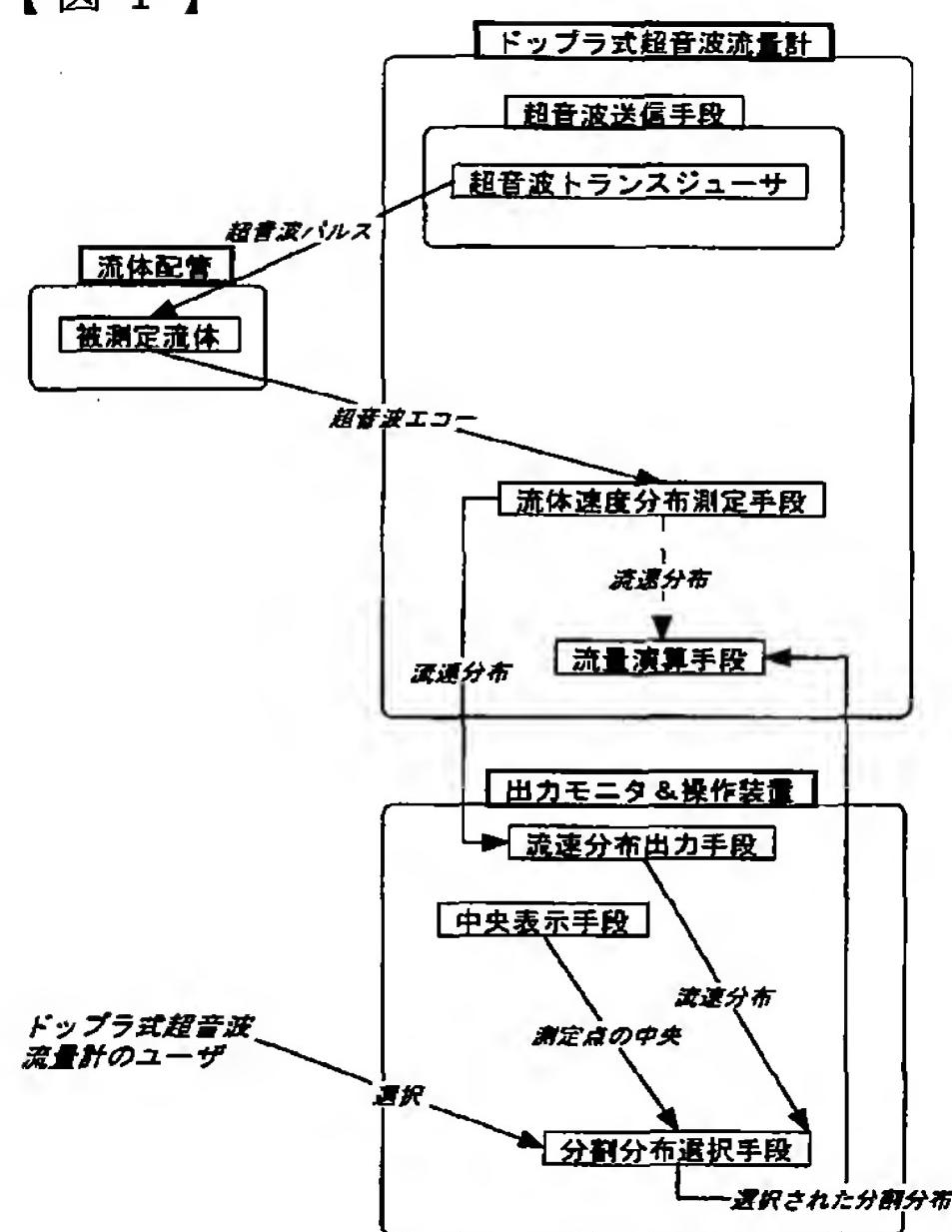
- 【図1】実施形態の構成を示す概念図である。 10
- 【図2】実施形態の構成を示す概念図である。
- 【図3】コンピュータのモニタへ出力された画面を示す図である。
- 【図4】コンピュータのモニタへ出力された画面を示す図である。
- 【図5】実施形態のハードウェア構成を示す図である。
- 【図6】ドップラ式超音波流量計の作動原理を説明するための図である。
- 【図7】超音波の壁面透過実験の例を示す図である。
- 【図8】測定実験で得られた被測定流体の時間平均流速分布の結果を示したものである。
- 【図9】超音波の入射角度を変更できる実施形態を示すハードウェア構成図である。
- 【図10】流体配管に対して平行ではない流れをベクトル表示した図である。
- 【図11】超音波トランスジューサを管軸方向に複数備えて、流体配管に対して平行ではない流れを測定する原理を示す図である。 20
- 【図12】超音波トランスジューサを管軸方向に複数備えた場合の信号処理ブロック図である。

【符号の説明】

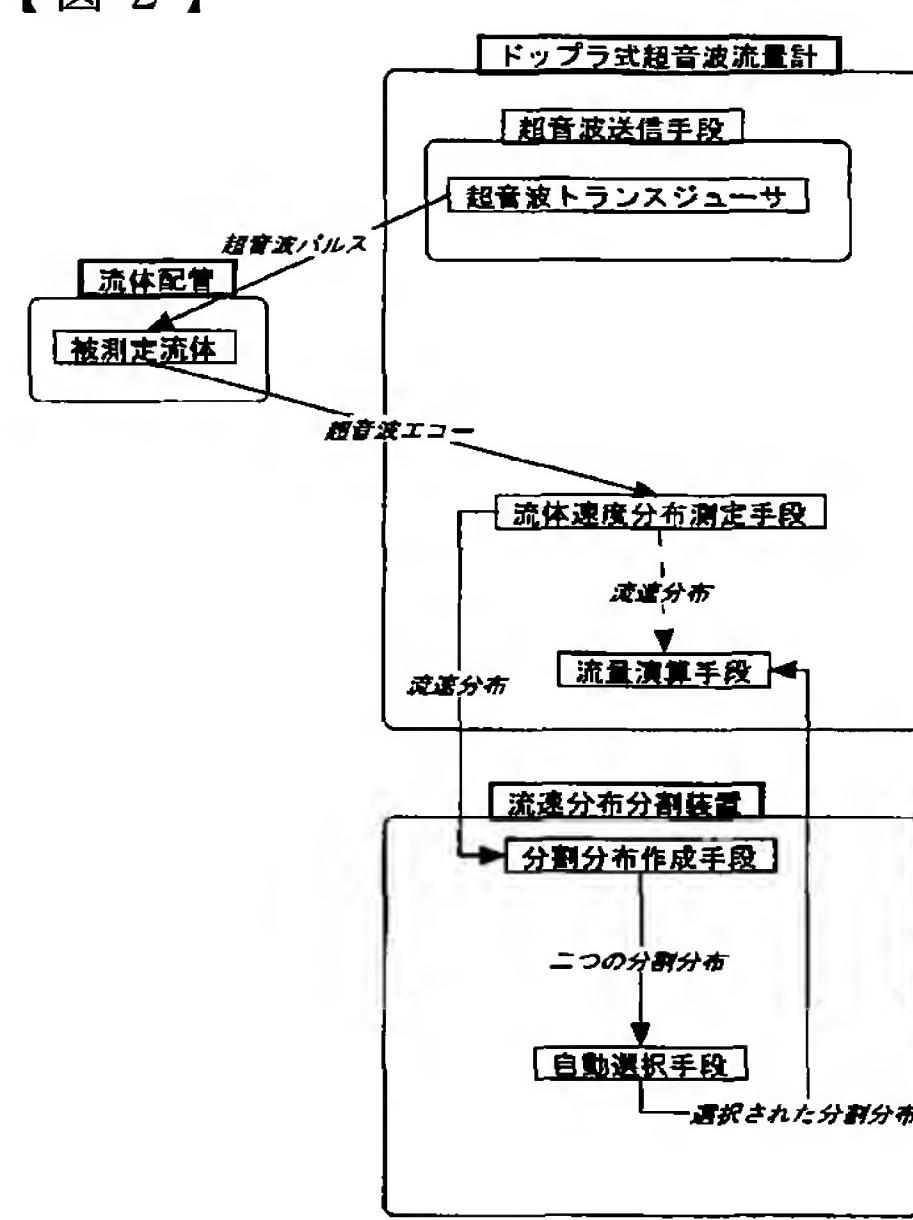
10, 10A, 10B	ドップラ式超音波流量計	
11	流体配管	12 被測定流体
13	超音波速度分布計測ユニット (Udflowユニット)	
15	超音波送信手段	16 流体速度分布測定手段
17	コンピュータ (流体流量演算手段)	
18	表示装置	19 周波数選択設定手段
20, 20a	超音波トランスジューサ	
21	発振用アンプ (信号発生器)	
23	発振器 (オッシャレータ)	24 エミッタ
27	反射波レシーバ (超音波受信手段)	
28	增幅器	29 A/D変換器
30	流速分布計測回路	31 発振周波数可変装置
32	基本周波数領域設定手段	33 反射波強度抽出手段
35	接触媒体	
40	入射角度調節設定手段	41 入射角度変換機構
43	入射角度領域設定手段	44 反射波強度抽出手段
46	超音波トランスジューサ移動機構	

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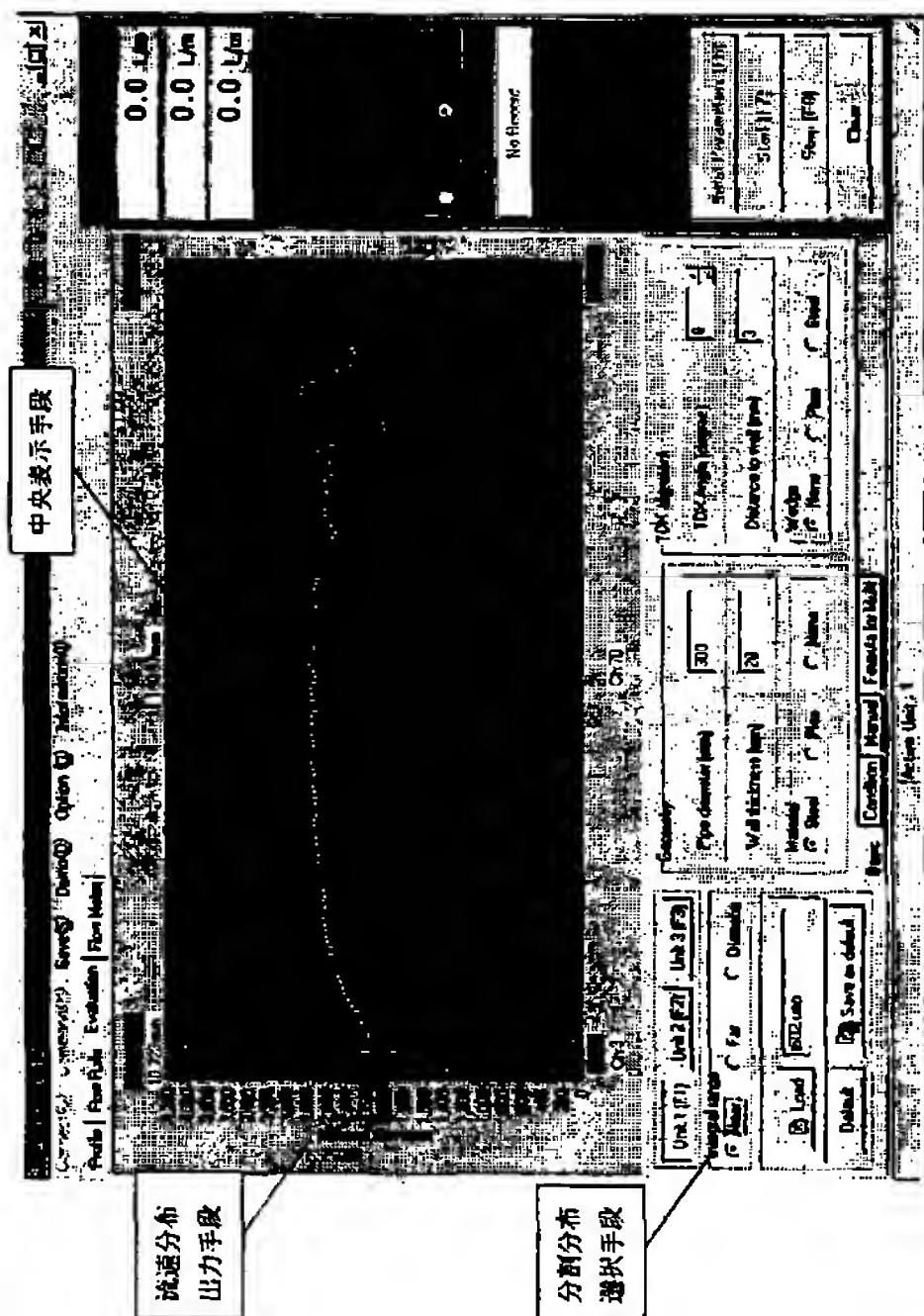
【図1】



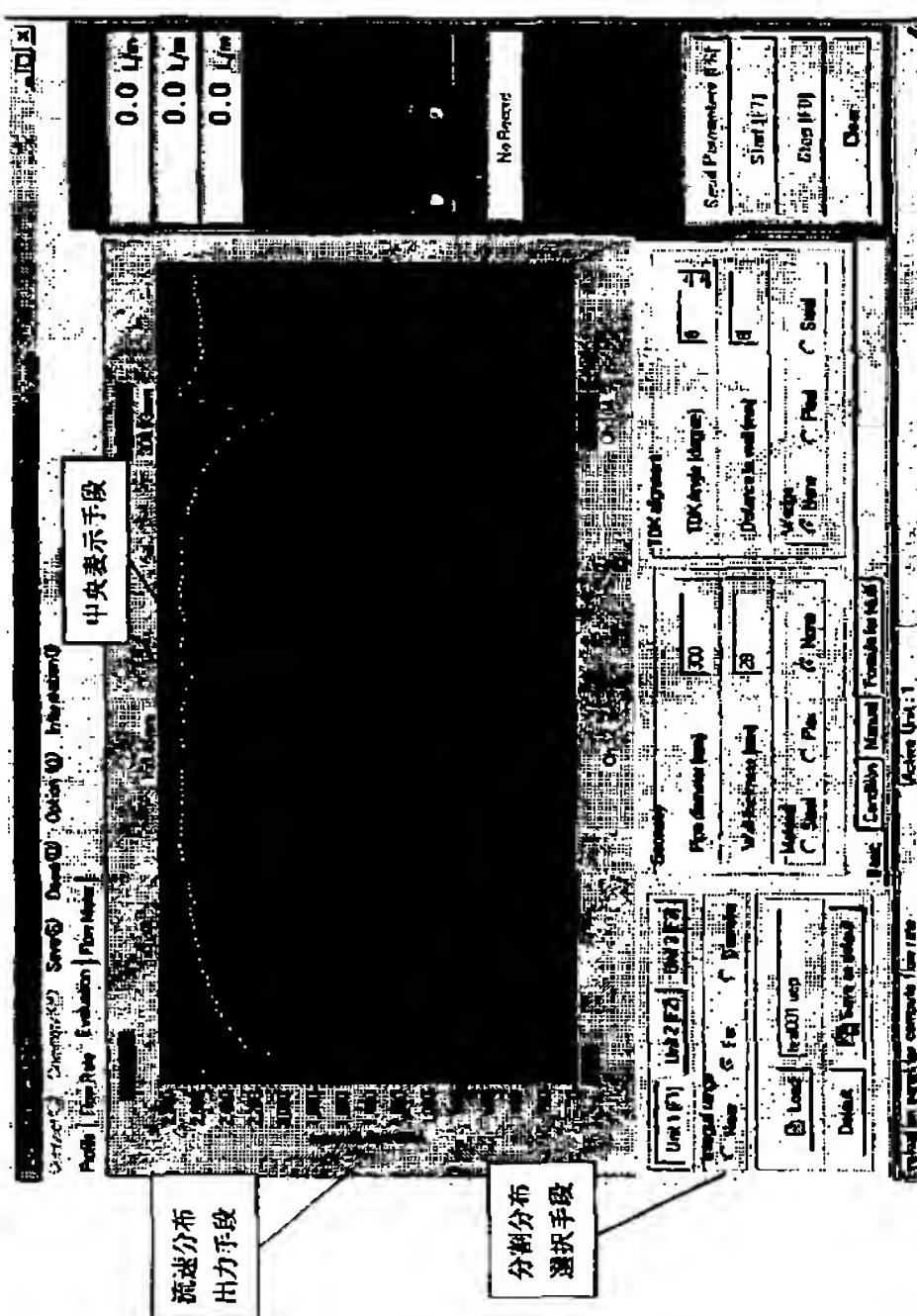
【図2】



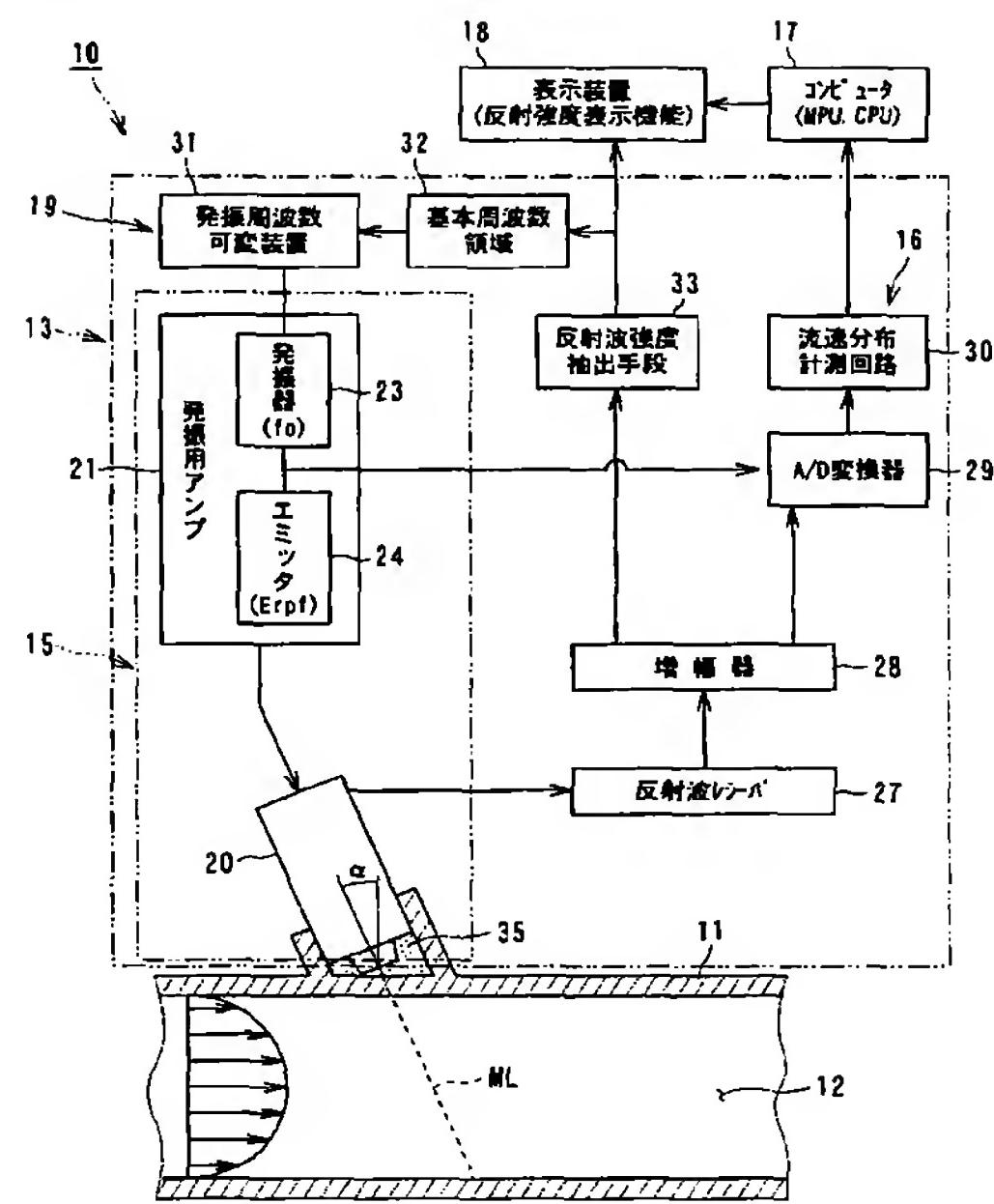
【図3】



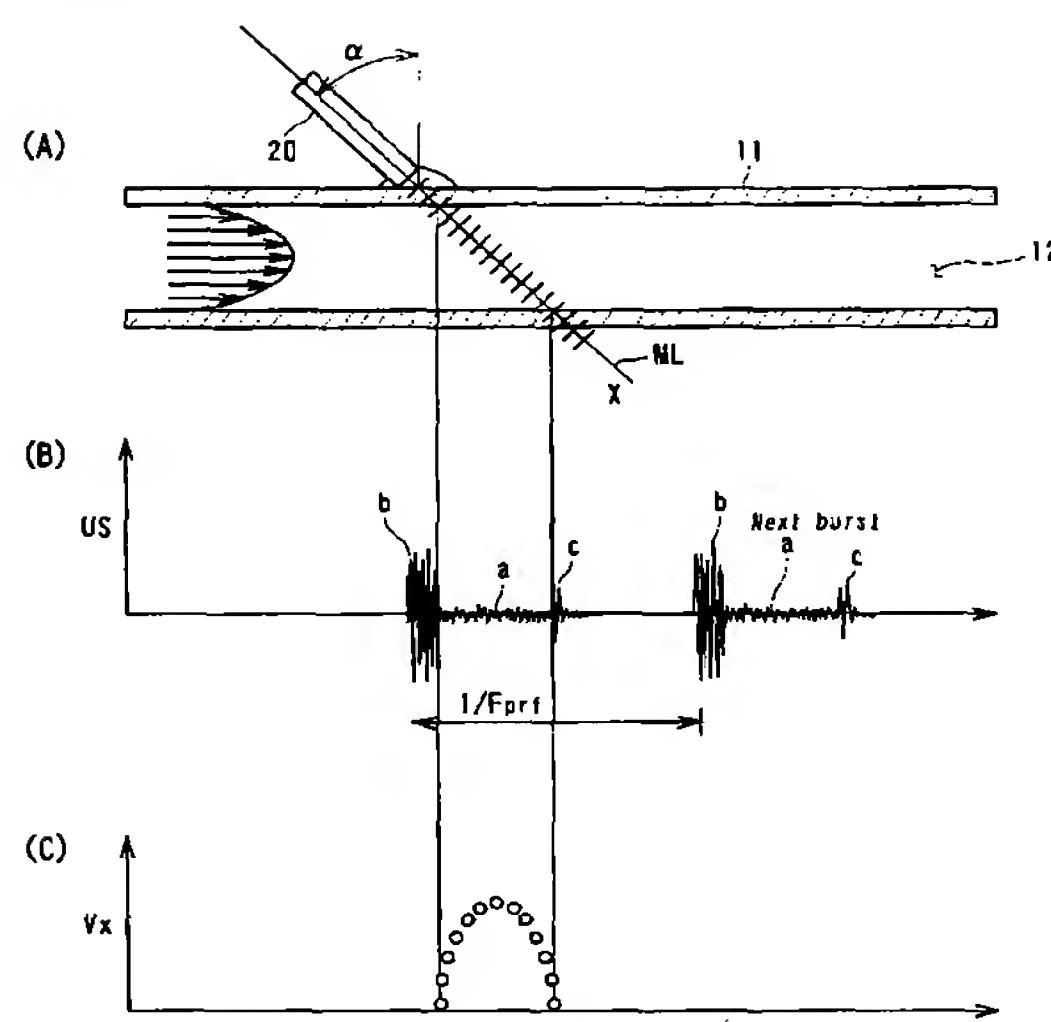
【図4】



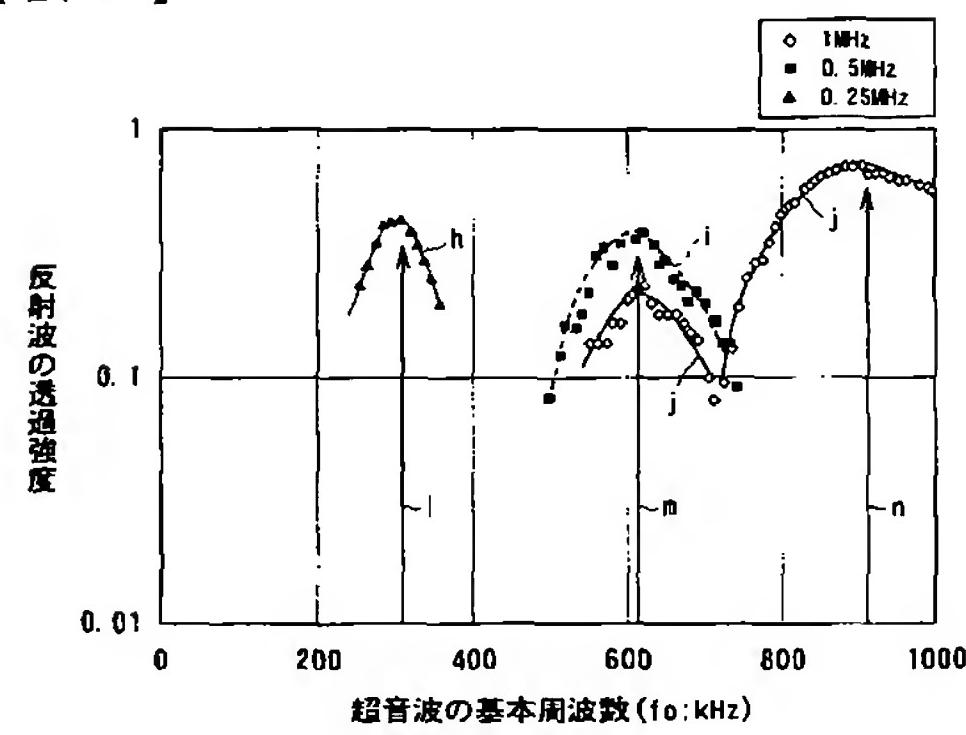
【図5】



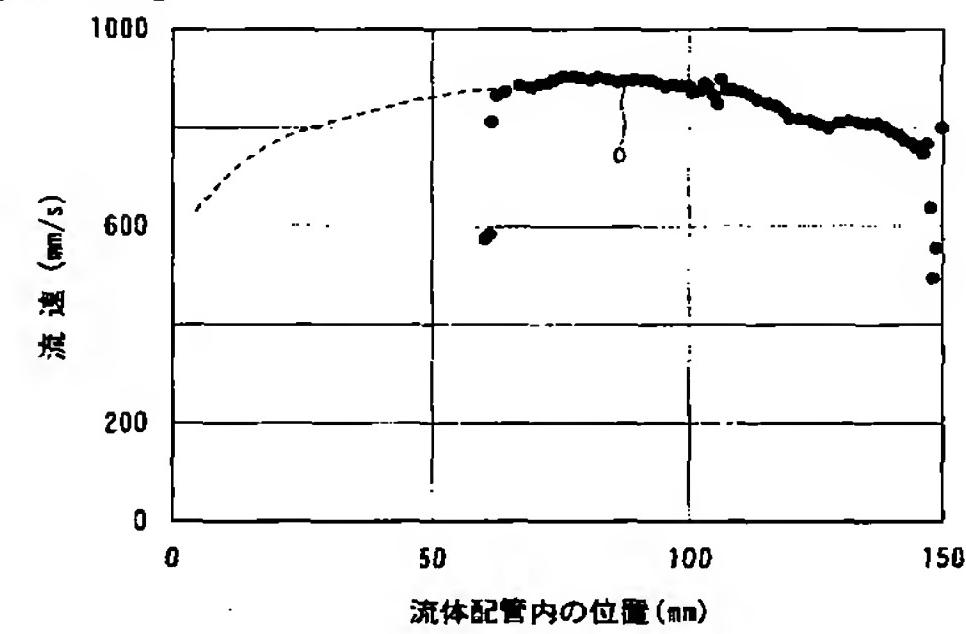
【図6】



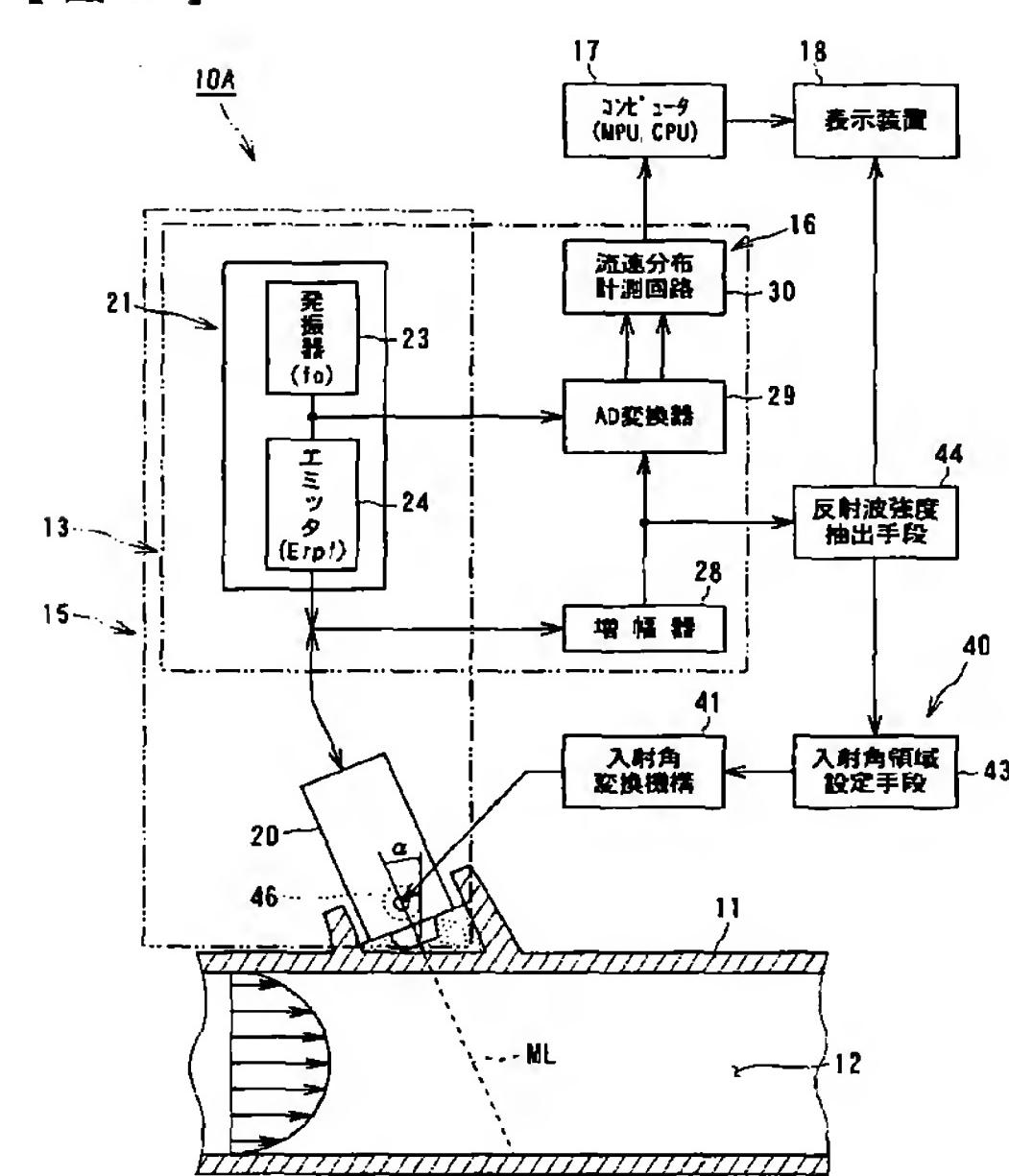
【図7】



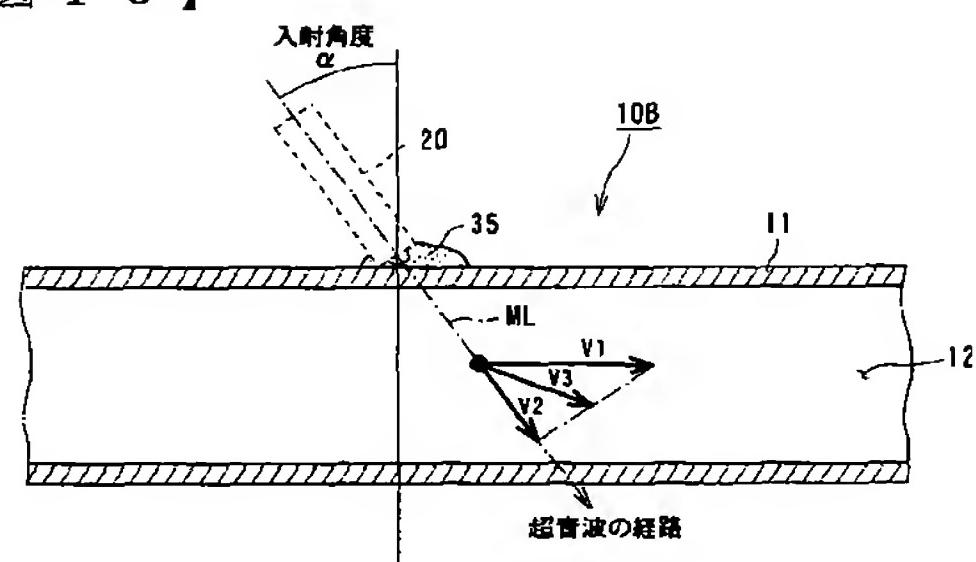
【図8】



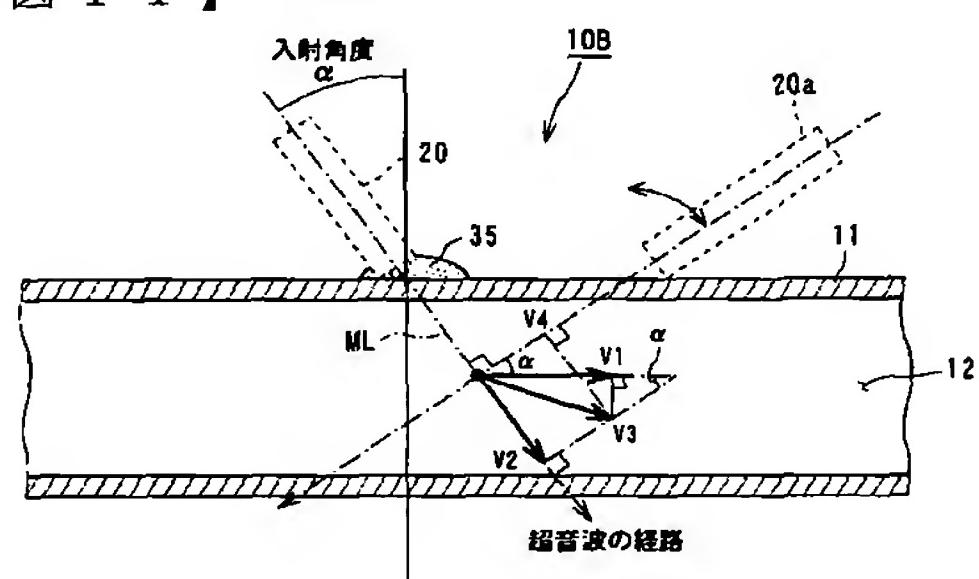
【図9】



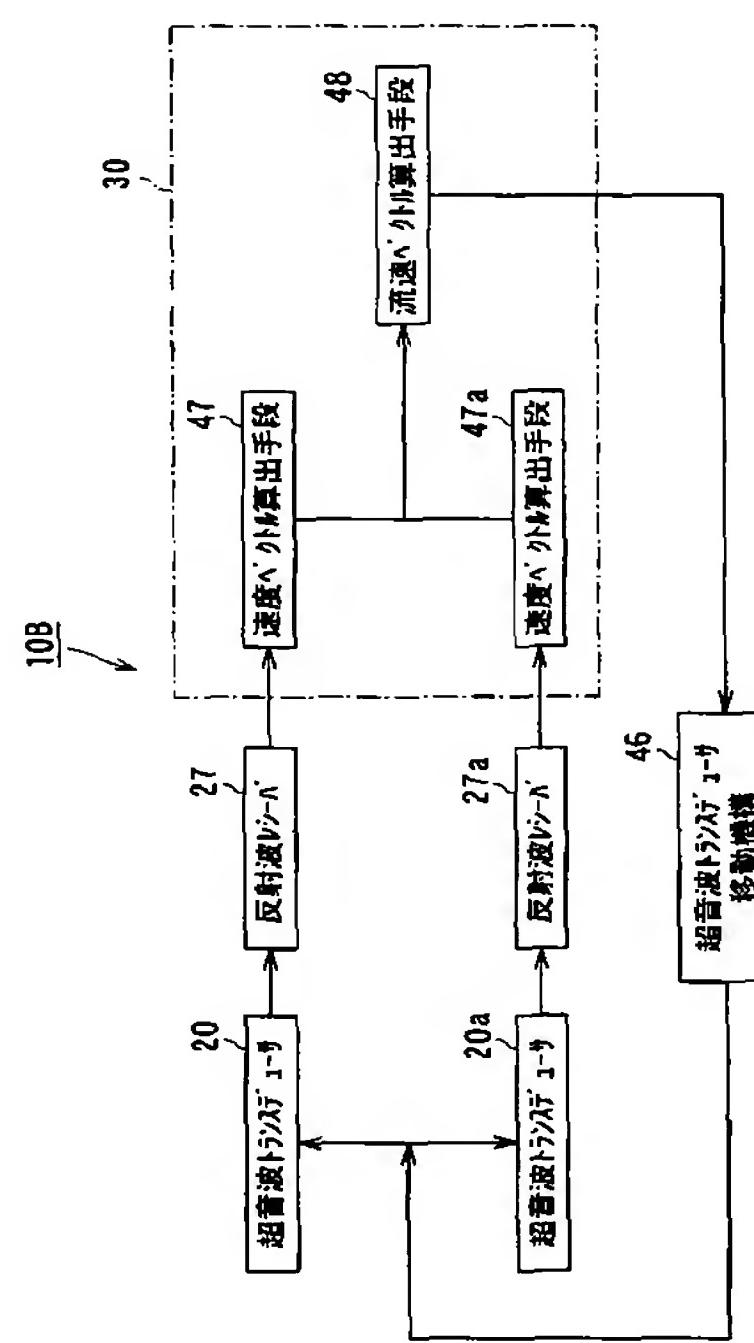
【図 10】



【図 11】



【図 12】



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フロントページの続き

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F ターム(参考) 2F035 DA12